

GAYDAR

magazine

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Winter 2006

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Jon Secada
Coco Peru
Alanis Morissette
Carson Kressley
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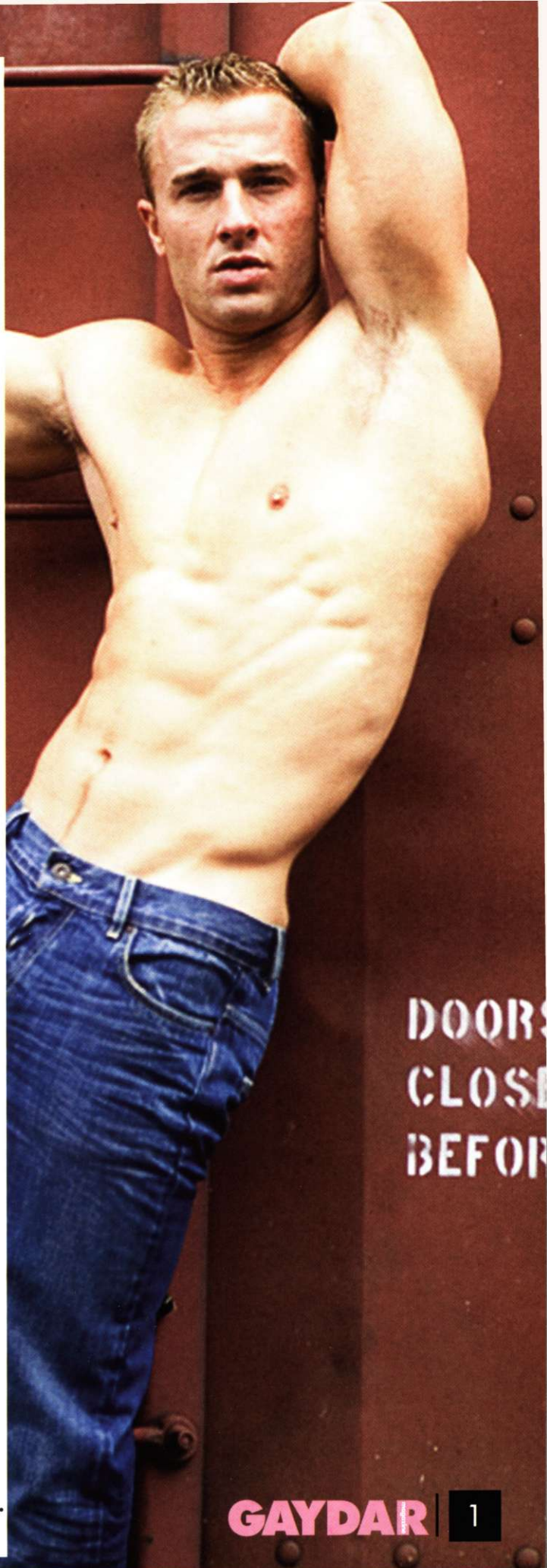
BE YOURSELF

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Contributors.....	2
Staff Profiles.....	3
Editor's Note.....	5
How's Your Life?.....	6
Gaydar Magazine Model: Niko.....	8
Not-So-Newlywed-Game.....	12
Slash/Fiction.....	14
Kristine W.....	17
FYI: Lumina.....	18
In & Out.....	19
Jesus is His Homeboy.....	20
Valentine & St Patrick's Day Recipes....	22
Portfolio: Michael Breyette.....	23
Comedian: Tim Miller.....	26
Coco Peru.....	27
Blaming Andy Warhol.....	30
Derrick Davenport Spread.....	31
Centerfold: Derrick Davenport/ Pussy Cat Dolls	
Top Tens of Everything.....	36
DJ Joe Gauthreaux.....	39
Fur Balls (Pet Tips).....	40
Gaydar Magazine Model: Michael.....	41
Book Report: Martin Gould.....	47
Skid Marks/F.O.R.D.....	48
Jon Secada.....	50
Alanis Morissette in Concert.....	52
Gaydar Magazine Model: Dino.....	53
Straight Eye on the Queer Guy.....	59
Cult Fave: Seregon O'Dassey.....	60
Wearing Levi's.....	61
Carson Kressley Goes Home.....	62
Overheard/Superhero Convention.....	63
Give Aways.....	64

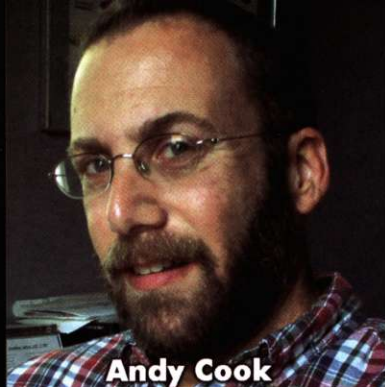
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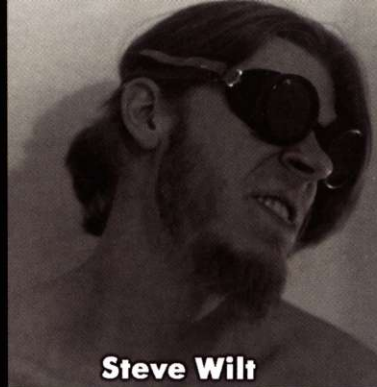


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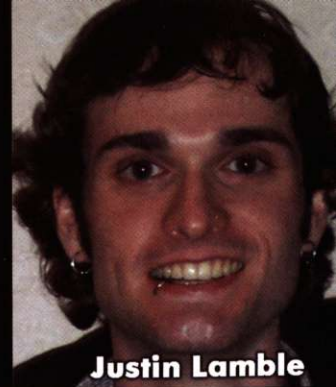
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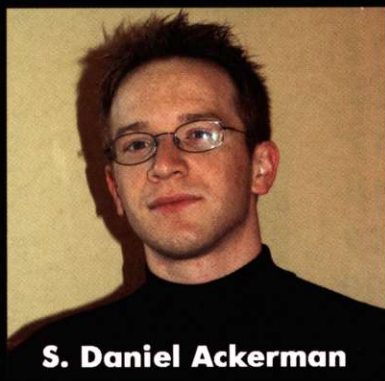
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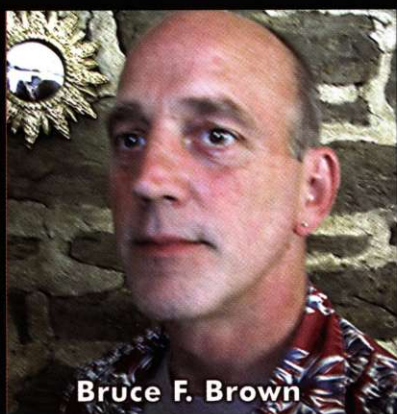
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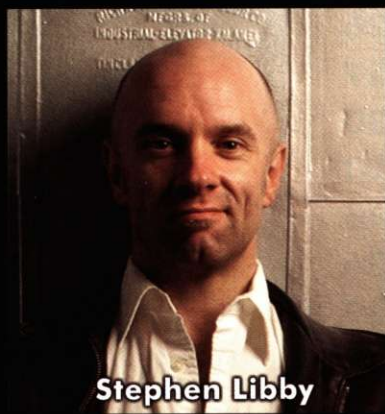
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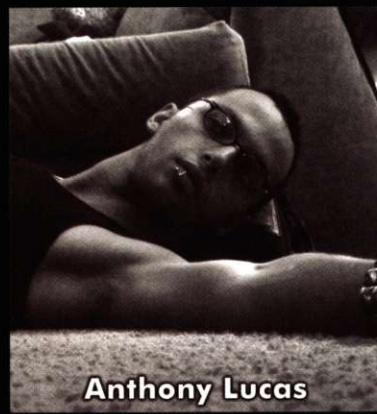
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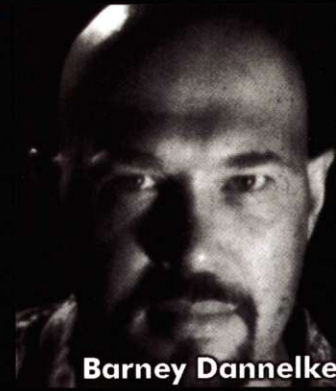
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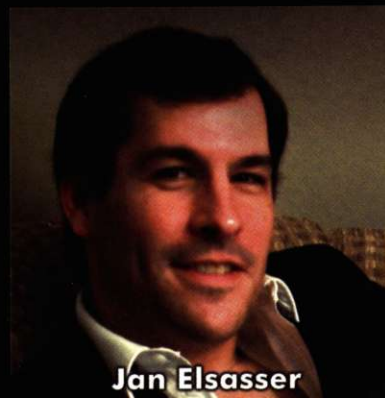
Shawn Bausher



Barney Dannelke



Mina Ivanova



Jan Elsasser



John Bressler



Lance Fisher

Staff profiles

Michael Sinclair

I considered asking my husband to write my bio for me, but I figured he'd only write about my e-bay addiction or my new found love for County music (which is not a mental illness, as he claims). Really, it seems strange to be writing a profile at all, considering that my contribution to the magazine is mostly behind the scenes. My educational and working background is in accounting, (as a CPA I worked in public accounting for about 10 years and now work in governmental accounting) so I mostly help with the business side of the magazine's production. You know; accounts payable, accounts receivable, invoices, general ledger, taxes. The fun stuff. That's not to say that I don't have lots of opinions about what should go into the magazine; especially when it comes to the models featured. Still, working in the background of the magazine suits me just fine. (Hey, I'm bashful; but it works for me). So why am I being profiled? I guess the editors of Gaydar Magazine think it's important to inform their readers about all the different people that make this publication possible. Being a hopeless romantic, I was excited to find out my bio would be included in the issue covering Valentine's Day.



Rachel Thompson

Rachel Thompson is a writer, artist, speaker, and human rights activist living in Bethlehem PA. She became an activist eight years ago upon coming out as a transsexual.

Rachel formally served on the board of SPARC and is currently a member of the GLBT youth group HAVEN. She co-founded the Lehigh Valley Transsexual Coalition which engages in grass roots education on TG issues and peer support.

Rachel is a member of various pro GLBT organizations such as NGLTF, HRC, ACLU, PFLAG, Renaissance, and PA-GALA.

Her advocacy work includes publishing editorials and political cartoons in the gay and mainstream press.

Rachel brings her passion for equality to all aspects of her life as an "out" artist, writer and volunteer in the larger arts community.

Contact Rachel at Humanrights4all@aol.com



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EDITORS NOTE

Welcome to our Valentine's Day issue. A discussion overheard at a local watering hole a few days ago raised the question of whether Valentine's Day is the ultimate day to express your love for that special someone or an evil conspiracy designed by greeting card and candy companies to make money while making those of us who are single feel totally inadequate. Who cares, really? I mean VD is going to continue every year no matter how many of us are single or married or committed or in unions or whatever. I do know I would love to get a Valentine from coverboy and centerfold, Derrick Davenport. His photo spread is our VD gift to all of you.

Speaking of gifts, Kristine W. and Coco Peru are two of the GLBT flag wavers who don't get all the credit they deserve. They are sweet, warm and amusing. Martin Gould, is the author of the wickedly humorous and thinly veiled semi-autobiographical, *Wishful Thinking*. DJ Joe Gauthreaux has been spinning the hottest dance tunes in the hottest clubs for the past year. Out and proud comedian Tim Miller is inspirational in his drive to keep his relationship stateside. We take you to Alanis Morissette's concert in NYC and follow Carson Kressley as he does a book signing in his hometown.

Our wonderful contributors who we keep locked in the basement and only feed when they have churned out product have come up with some great artwork, photographs, graphics, articles, commentary and opinion pieces. Okay, you can come up for dinner.

Our models, Michael, Niko and Dino are the best. One look and you'll see why we were hooked.

Valentine's Day 2006. Do with it what you will, but enjoy the day. Remember, you're only getting graded on your Valentine's performance if you are in a relationship. The rest of us can breathe a sigh of relief.

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So, How's Life?

A New Years Resolution

By James Falcon

As the year moves up one, I know of one thing that I want to move down (and not by one). My weight!

Past resolutions have not made out well. During the Simple Life phase (with a pre-"House of Wax" Paris Hilton), I decided that my resolution for that upcoming year would be to act like her (sans the sex tapes): to act wild and crazy without fear of consequences. Hopefully this year's resolution will go along without a hitch.

I think of myself in the summer, two years ago. As I stepped on the scale, a large smile grew across my face as it read "185". For me 185 was being a twig, compared to the 270 pounds that I weighed in high school. (If you have one of my high school yearbooks, you can see for yourself).

Now I weigh 205 — which in my opinion is a pretty good weight. But is there anything wrong with wanting to be back down to 185? I felt that 185 was my ideal weight, even though my mother took me aside to say: "I've been talking with Lisa (her friend), and we think that you might be anorexic." As a look of panic and humor mixed on my face, my mother took me by the hand and said in an assuring manner: "It's okay. Nowadays, men get it too."

Anorexic was far from the truth. Actually, I was just too poor to buy as much food as I used to eat now that I was living outside of my parents' home. So of course my weight went down. "You look ghastly," my mother said. Or maybe she said "ghostly". Either way, she was scared for my life, thinking I was ill with some grave disease or something. Personally, I think she was exaggerating. I hardly looked like a pre-teenage girl in one of those afternoon specials. But I will have to admit that my height and weight ratio was a bit off-kilter.

This column is serving as a double reminder for me. First, to help me take off the pounds that I want to lose; and second, to help me keep it all balanced.

With the goals listed below, I hope to achieve my resolution.

1. Eat less

Sometimes it's not about getting rid of something; it's about not eating as much of it as I normally would. Restaurants serve far more on a plate than one person needs to eat. It's easy to do the same thing at home. I can still enjoy the foods I like to eat. Instead of eating a huge helping of my favorite meal, I can eat a smaller portion.

2. Cut out the junk

Because I live in the middle of nowhere (the closest fast food is Subway—and that's thirty miles away), the temptation to eat fast food is slim. Still, I've cut certain fast food eateries out of my diet all together. The same is true for junk food. No matter how appetizing they may look, most of that good stuff is loaded with sugar and fat. And that reminds me, pop (or "soda" as it is known on the East Coast) is in the same category. I'll be reaching for a bottle of water.

3. Substitute ingredients

While dining with my parents and grandparents at the Buca di Beppo—one of my favorite indulgences—my mother commented that using olive oil in cooking is better for you than using butter or margarine. This is one of those "Hints from Heloise" (although that's not really my mom's name) that I've taken to heart. I've invested in a large bottle of olive oil (extra virgin, of course—just like me) to use in cooking. (Of course, my cooking tastes like cement; but that's another article.)

4. Exercise

One of the benefits of living in a small mid-western town is that everything is within walking distance. As a result, I have banished my van to the parking lot. I've traded in my car keys for my feet—a good investment, especially when gas is so expensive. My boyfriend and I are planning on investing in some exercise equipment. After watching those infomercials (again and again and again—um, did it get warm in here?) I've seen the kind of progress exercise can have for a person. I want to be a part of that. It's time to get a piece of that action! (I'm talking about losing weight.)

What will I do as the benefits of my New Year's Resolutions take hold? I could recline on a lawn chair in my front lawn wearing nothing but short shorts to show it all off; but my ego will definitely not increase as my weight decreases. I have no desire to become one of the many two-a-penny Abercrombie model look-alikes that stalk the planet today. (I did work there for a month a few winters ago, but they put me in the back stocking the shelves; go figure.)

I have no desire to become one of the many two-a-penny Abercrombie model look-alikes that stalk the planet today.

As I eat less and drizzle olive oil on everything imaginable and lifting weights, I anticipate losing weight. Twenty pounds isn't bad, right? While I could obsess about achieving twiggy-ness and get down to ninety pounds (so I can fit into one of those extra-small American Eagle shirts—who wears those things?!), I feel that getting down to 185 is not just sensible, but attainable. Make your goals achievable, my friends!

Until next season.

James Falcon, a 'seventh-generation Allentownian', lives in the Midwest and works as a call centre agent (which is fancy for 'telemarketer') and a freelance writer. He can be reached for comment at: jamesthefreelancer@yahoo.com.

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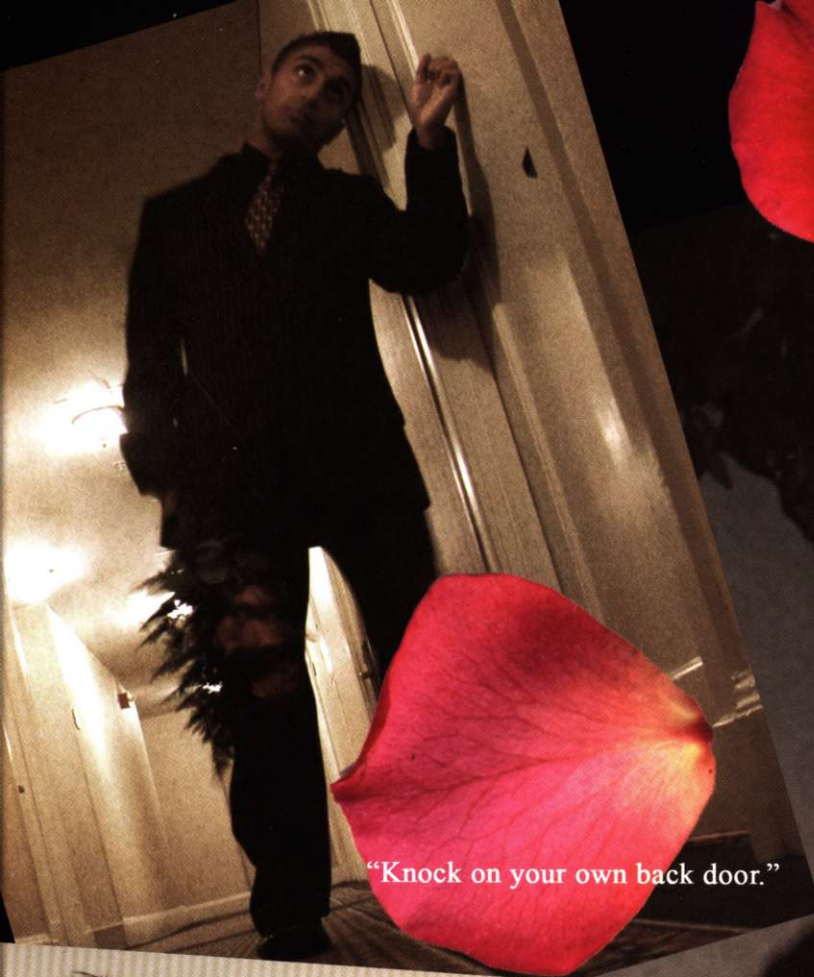
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"Send yourself a dozen roses."



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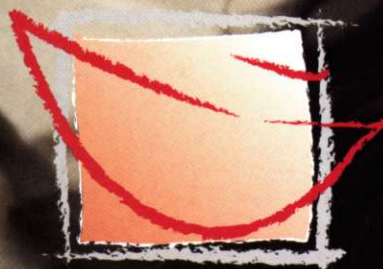
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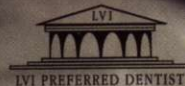


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Bill & Jason
6 Years

Liz & Trish
18 Years

Bob & Frank
25 Years

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QUESTIONS

1. When is your anniversary?
2. Where was your first date?
3. Place you first made whoopee?
4. What is your song?
5. Each others favorite movie?
(and their own so we can score)
6. Each others favorite food?
(ditto)
7. Each others pet peeve?
(common now, really...are you paying attention?)
8. Finish the sentence: love is....

Bill & Jason 6 Years

1. Jason: 10/23 - Our Tommyversary (we met on this day at Tommy at the Civic Theater)
10/26 - Our Commitment Ceremony
Bill: 10/26/01 - Our Ceremony
10/23/99 - Tommyversary "We met"

2. Jason: New York City. Benny's Burritos, Magnolia Bakery, and a long walk
Bill: We went to New York

3. Jason: In an office.
Bill: At a friend's house.

4. Jason: "Love Who You Love" from Man of No Importance
Bill: "Thank God I Found You"

5. Jason: Bill's is Sophie's Choice, mine is Far From Heaven.
Bill: The Hours for both of us

6. Jason: Bill's is white chocolate, mine is Chicken Bryan
Bill: Mexican and Mexican/ Chicken Enchiladas

7. Jason: Dysfunction and Passive-Aggressiveness. Mine is back-seat drivers.
Bill: Ignorance and ignorance

8. Jason: Everything
Bill: Jason

25% Matches



Bob & Frank 25 Years



1. Frank: March 27, the day we moved in together.
Bob: March 27, the day we moved into our first apartment together.

2. Frank: New Hope
Bob: New Hope

3. Frank: Bob's apartment.
Bob: My apartment in South Allentown.

4. Frank: "Theme from Cabaret"
Bob: "Don't Cry for me, Argentina"

5. Frank: For Bob- Dr. Zhivago and Casablanca for me.
Bob: Titanic, his and mine.

6. Frank: For Bob- Lima beans and spinach for me.
Bob: For Frank- Spinach and lima beans for me.

7. Frank: For Bob- When the store is out of white Dial soap. I hate the lights left on overnight.
Bob: For Frank- Complicated computer software and car alarms for me.

8. Frank: Love is caring and truthful.
Bob: "a many splendor thing."

50% Matches

Liz & Trish 18 Years



1. Liz: March 11th
Trish: March 11th

2. Liz: New York City, to a play
Trish: New York City

3. Liz: Trish's bed in her house in New York (we kissed on the couch).
Trish: Ft. Montgomery (New York).

4. Liz: Blue Moon.
Trish: Blue Moon.

5. Liz: Trish's is Babette's Feast. Mine is Wizard of Oz.
Trish: Liz's is Wizard of Oz. Mine is Hello Dolly
(Liz's note: Trish would have said Babette's Feast if she had remembered it. That's part of the function of a long-term partner)

6. Liz: For Trish- Potatoes, and I like anything Trish cooks, but especially Amelie Island Shrimp
Trish: For Liz- Lobster ravioli, and French-fried potatoes for me.

7. Liz: Hypocritical people and having to play games she doesn't know the rules to. I hate garbage in the street.
Trish: Stupid people, and I have too many to list.

8. Liz: Getting to be with Trish.
Trish: Forgiving and Forever.

50% Matches

SLASH/FICTION

A whole lotta love that dare not speak its name.



by Flaming Bibliophile: **Barney Dannelke**

As I type these words Valentine's Day is almost upon us. A time when a not so young man's fancy turns to thoughts of inappropriate pairings and bizarre and outrageous sexual fantasies involving characters that don't exist, but still retain teams of lawyers who will sue your ass off if you try and speak openly about any of this. Really? My ass? What sort of inappropriate sexual couplings are we talking about? How about Harry Potter and Draco Malfoy? Consider the Mission Teams on Stargate or the boys from Starsky and Hutch. Or, those septuagenarians of Sci-Fi: Kirk & Spock. How many times have you said to yourself, "If only these beloved characters could be a little more gay!" Well, as my Valentines Day present to you, consider this problem solved.

Today, what we are on about is a literary phenomenon called Slash Fiction. Don't worry; this doesn't have anything to do with knives or things that go bump in the night. Well, actually, there is quite a lot of bumping in the night, so you had better let me explain.

Back in the late 1960's and early 1970's, long before the internet and news-groups and instant messaging and blogging, the way people got together and gabbed about their various obsessions was with fanzines. Now fanzines themselves were nothing new. Science fiction fanzines got their start back in the 1930's, but an odd confluence of interests took place in 1967 when the first Star Trek fanzines got off the ground. Very quickly these types of 'zines, as they're called, began to be filled with fan fiction, which is any story about fictional characters not authorized by the actual copyright holder. People had a field day. Didn't like last week's episode? Too bad. Go ahead, buy a mimeograph machine and publish your own. I say this as though it were easy, but doing offset printing in your own living room is about as much fun as facing lights-up after last call without the benefit of beer goggles. You try it.

From 1967 to 1973 people are playing in the Star Trek fan fiction bean fields and telling their various Federation stories and playing nice. Then things get kinky. In 1974 in GRUP #3, a 76 page Star Trek fanzine, Diane Marchant, an Australian fan published a story called A FRAGMENT OUT OF TIME. While this was a very circumspect story, referring to Kirk and Spock only as "he" and "him" and is only two pages long, the results have been so far reaching as to hardly be comprehensible. Essentially it's just two guys making love on an alien planet surface. One is human. He ends up taking one for the team. Pon Far, the Vulcan mating impulse may have been a factor. That's it. But the big gay Genie was now out of the bottle and fandom was off and running – or, typing. At first there were arguments within fandom about how appropriate any of this was. Kirk and Spock, gay? Never! But let's write some heterosexual or "het" fiction about Kirk and Spock. Then you have 'zines publishing mixed slash and het fan fiction. But very quickly there were 'zines devoted to just Kirk/Spock gay fan fiction. This is where the term slash comes from. After awhile people needed to differentiate between the "regular" stories and the much more controversial Vulcan on Man / Man on Vulcan type stuff. Plus, they needed to fly under the radar of the studios who owned these properties. So, K/S was born.

Then people started asking themselves, "If we can write Kirk/Spock gay erotic fiction, why not Starsky and Hutch? Why not C.H.I.P.'s or Miami Vice?" These combinations of characters from other franchises, and yes, characters crossing over from different franchises required a more generic catch all term, and [/], or slash, was born..

So, right from the very beginning, we have the makings of an underground literature. Like Oscar Wilde dropping off a bundle of butcher paper wrapped manuscripts composed by "many and diverse hands of a Socratic nature" at the Librairie Parisienne, these new "notes passed from hand to hand" gave birth to an enormous underground movement of gay erotic literature.

And who exactly is writing all of this gay porn? Apparently, until very recently most of this material, 95% or more, was written by women. There is some controversy over what percentage of these women identify as straight, bi or lesbian, but whatever the demographic is on sexual orientation, they sure do like writing reams and reams of sweaty man-love type fiction. Why this has been the case is also a hotly debated topic. First, gay romantic and erotic fiction is, at heart, romance fiction, and romance fiction is responsible for approximately half of all of the books sold in this country. With that many women reading and writing romance, and same sex relationships being more accepted while still retaining the element of the exotic, it's probably an inevitable outcome.

Some people think these women feel more comfortable writing about their heroes and fantasy icons in same sex situations because these women are somehow less offended or threatened by a same sex pairing than a heterosexual pairing. I'm not so sure about that, but the boys at RE:Search and the fellows doing the Apocalypse Culture anthologies think it's possible, so who am I to argue. My lips get tired just reading that much post-modern textual theory.

We do know that many of them seem to prefer stories where the proposed couple, be it Mulder and Skinner from the X-FILES or Obi-Wan and Qui-Gon from STAR WARS are getting it on for the very first time. Entire anthology fanzines and entire web sites and servers on the internet have been given over just to "1st time pairings". That magic first time – over and over and over again. You wish.

First time encounters are one popular style, but it's hardly the only one. Another big hit is something called MARY SUE slash. This is any story where the author inserts herself, or, more rarely, himself, into the story. Suddenly a person who has never been seen in an episode of BUFFY THE VAMPIRE SLAYER is being dragged into a three way with Giles and Spike. Oh my. Mary Sue slash actually caused a fairly major preferential schism within slash fandom. There are those who love to read and write only these types of stories and others who feel the entire practice of adding yourself in is opportunistic and either childish or rude. Go figure.

I'm sorry. Was that Spike/Giles or "S/G" 3-way image rather abrupt? Well, then PWP slash, or "plot, what plot?" slash fiction is probably not your one-fisted way to a good time. There are tons of 'zines and hundreds of gigs of server space given over to fiction where scarcely is the characters name blurted out – say, Commander Sisko for instance – before shape changing alien Security Officer Odo is doing something biologically improbable to him, or with him.

This then leads to slash fiction rating systems. And most slash fandoms have their own stylized rating system. Warnings to readers who only want certain kinds of chocolate mixed in with certain kinds of peanut butter and only using certain sexual utensils. Wouldn't want to offend, eh?

Did I mention system servers up there? Oh, yes. The rise of the internet and the rise of slash fiction go hand in hand, or unlicensed franchise body part in body part, if you will. As soon as there were Usenet news groups, there were lists devoted to almost every TV show and movie with a cult following imaginable. From there it was only nanoseconds before flying fingers were describing the sweaty intimate details of what a pairing between the male cast members of BABYLON 5 and the UK based Sci-Fi hit RED DWARF might be like. Or, you have the women from XENA getting slippery with the girls over in the BUFFY-verse, or the power suits over in ALLY McBEAL. Aren't there enough women on each of these shows already, you ask? Sure, but some of them have already done the whole bi/lesbian identifying thing like Willow and Tara from BUFFY on their shows. In slash circles this is referred to as "canon". If it happened on the show then it doesn't break a rule. Same sex is not enough for "slash". It must also be forbidden by the network, or owner of the franchise to be true slash fiction. Or so the argument goes, and trust me, these arguments rage endlessly in sexual cyberspace. The other result of so much cross-franchise pollination is the rise of so-called "slash butterflys", who switch from Jack Bauer 24-style man love to the boys from FASTLANE faster than you can say "network cancellation", or, "my last boyfriend."

(Continued)

But back to the ladies from XENA and BUFFY, this gave birth to the most significant sub-genre of slash, namely femslash, or femme-slash which, as you may have guessed is mostly written by women, apparently mostly straight women, yet features mostly lesbian pairings. Works for me.

Another strange aspect to all of this, and even less talked about, are slash oriented websites featuring photo manipulations. For the most part, these are sort of what you would expect. Take Patrick Stewart or Commander Picard's head, add Photoshop, graft to a preferred porn star body, click, enter. Ho-hum. But then you find something like The THEBAN PAGES ARCHIVE, which has a MASTER AND COMMANDER page menu. Click on these and you will find still shots from the film of Captain Jack Aubrey and Doctor Maturin that were never in the film. People just standing closer together and oriented suggestively, but that's about it. Considering how much "real" porn is currently out there on the net it makes you wonder what it is exactly that makes someone spend hours manipulating photos, or days writing a story about two or more fictional characters having sex, when so much instant gratification may be had at the push of a button.

Speaking of pushing buttons, in case none of this surprises or offends you, rest assured, it does get under the skin of a lot of people. While the folks who do BUFFY and XENA tend to turn a blind eye to all of this, when not actively encouraging it with same sex role models, Lucas Arts and Disney and Paramount are ever vigilant for exactly these kinds of abuses. Disney? But what would Disney have to... oh my God. Yes, Virginia - Tooneslash.

I kid you not. All those years watching Chip 'n' Dale and RESCUE RANGERS and you never suspected? Hate to break it to you. Power Rangers and the Scooby-Doo Gang? It's all just a Google search away.

Then there is chanslash. This is slash featuring characters that, while fictional, are, nevertheless, age inappropriate. Most notably, and by far the largest archives of slash fiction on the net right now, are slash fiction databases set in the Harry Potter universe. How many stories? Try 45,000 as of two years ago. You do the math. Should you or I care about the consenting age of a "fictional" character? Well, for some reason I do, and I'm not even a lawyer trying to sue someone back into the Stone Age.

This takes us to the stickiest sub-genre of them all - real person slash. And who should we blame this one on? The same people on whom I like to blame lots of cultural problems: The BACKSTREET BOYS and N*SYNC. The nearly infinite combinations possible with this inter-musical franchise clusterfuck has brought a new wave of slash fiction to the forefront, involving other boybands such as the GOO-GOO DOLLS and GOOD CHARLOTTE and leading to the x-rated pairings of just about everybody under the sun from THE BEATLES and THE ROLLING STONES to Donald Rumsfeld and Jon Stewart from THE DAILY SHOW.

Finally hit a wall with that last one? I hope so. So, what does this all mean? I don't know. But it proves that ever since the Normans decided to insert LANCELOT into Arthurian legend, people have been screwing around with stories without permission and you can't stop them with a cease and desist order or by taking away their server space.

So, to all of you pining away for that perfect pairing between characters from THE WEST WING or castaways on LOST; I say to you, keep looking for unauthorized same-sex fictional love in all those weird spaces, and have a Happy Valentines Day.



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Kristine W.

She's had ten #1 Billboard Dance Singles since 1994. She plays sax and guitar. She's had more performances at the Las Vegas Hilton than any other performer in history, including Elvis. So many in fact, they have named a day in her honor. Ladies & gentlemen, please welcome KRISTINE W!!!!!!

Gaydar Magazine: Eleven years after your first number one, what have you learned about the music biz?

Kristine W.: I started working as a musician. My mother was a musician for 30 years. So, I know about the business. You are alone a lot of the time, except when in front of the audience.

GM: Why do you think you are such an icon to the gay community?

KW: They can see through phony people...and they know I am real. Dance music taps into the music of life and the energy of the planet.

GM: Did battling leukemia change your perspective on life?

KW: I was convinced I would never have the energy to perform again. I've had a million rounds of chemo and a stem cell transplant. I still get sick, but when I walk on stage I turn into Superwoman. If I go down singing happy music, then that's what I'm supposed to do.

GM: Where were you when you first heard a Kristine W. song on the radio?

KW: It was "Show & Tell". The band and I were driving around in a tour van. It was on 98.5 and I was freakin' n out! I called my mom.

GM: How do people celebrate Kristine W Day in Nevada?

KW: I'm never there. I'm always on a plane somewhere else...this year I was in Toronto. It's weird, but I hope they are having a great time.

GM: Any message to your fans?

KW: I dedicate "I'll Be Your Light" to all of you. Hey, these were fun questions. Thanks.

GM: Thank you, Kristine.

Favorites:

Member of the royal family?

The Queen Mum. Classy.

First Celebrity Crush?

JFK Jr.

Current Celebrity Crush?

George Clooney. I just think he'd be a blast to hang out with.

Superhero you'd like to have sex with?

Christian Bale as Batman was HOT. And I don't know if he counts as a superhero, but The Rock. I could get busy with him.

Guilty Pleasure?

Dark Chocolate.





While emotionally gay men rarely age, our bodies unfortunately march on with the tides of time. Fortunately, there are some ready solutions to help keep our faces, torsos and other parts in line with the age that we want to act.

For myself, I am still amazed to discover places (usually on my head) where hair is no longer growing, while at the same time finding new places where hair has decided to sprout. I mean, really; on the lobes of my ears?! To explore what resources might be available to our aging friends (since we are eternally youthful), the editors of Gaydar Magazine recently had a consultation with...er, I mean interviewed...Dr. Maryellen Strout at Lumina Laser and Aesthetics. Dr. Strout recently took up shop at American Hairlines in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania and has a number of tools to help you in your quest for youthfulness.



Photo: Michelle Lala

Dr. Maryellen K. Strout & Gabriella Penzes

Ask yourself these questions.

Are you dynamic or static?

I'm talking about your wrinkles, now. Depending on the type of wrinkles you have, different treatments are available. Dynamic wrinkles are those things that we call worry lines, laugh lines and crow's feet. They come from showing years of emotion. The more you show emotion, the more you use the muscles that cause deeper lines. Botox® helps to soften those lines and to reduce the wrinkles by relaxing the muscles that contract and cause wrinkles. Static wrinkles are those lines and wrinkles that appear as your face loses its shape and definition. As we age our skin loses its ability to retain moisture, allowing wrinkles and grooves to form. Restylane® is a dermal filler that provide instant and long lasting results. Restylane® differs from Botox® in that it is injected as a filler to add volume to smooth out facial wrinkles and folds. Sometimes the two can be used together to maximize results.

Do you like things skin tight?

If you're going to wear pants that are skin tight, it would be nice to have the same tightness for the skin of your jawline, arms and abdomen. Titan™ skin tightening uses an infrared light to heat the dermis, below the skin's surface, to enhance skin tone. You get results without surgery or injections, and can do it with only a few treatments over a few months.

To be or not to be...a Chihuahua

Tweezers, wax, razors. These are not pretty things; but for years they have been the staple of removing hair from unwanted places. Laser hair removal offers long-lasting results by impairing the ability of treated hair follicles to grow. It does this by heating the hair follicle beneath the skin. Because follicles are not actively growing at the same time, multiple treatments may be needed every few weeks to get the results you are looking for. Once you're finished with your treatments, you'll have to find another use for the hot wax.

"These treatments are incredibly safe. There is no allergic reaction potential. There is no ablative razor as I am not removing a layer of skin.

It is an immediate fix."

Dr. Maryellen K. Strout
BCL Certified



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Dave McCormack
American Hairlines

By **Know-it-all, Shawn Bausher**

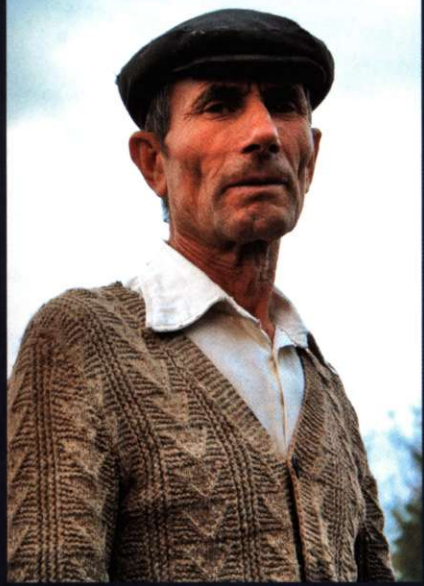
What's IN

Wool
Velvet jackets
Designing your own sneakers
Tartan
Tuxedo separates (not wearing a tux)
Henley shirts
LAMB (the clothes not the animal)
Madonna (again)
The Nano
DVD box sets
Vintage luggage and watches
Volunteering (it's cool, rewarding and everyone should give it a try!)

What's OUT

Color contacts
Biker shorts (unless you are riding a bike and that does not include the stationary bike at the gym!)
Square toe shoes
Untucked button down shirts
Distressed and torn denim (don't waste your money)
The "messy" look (tuck in your shirt boys!)
Eyebrows that are TOO sculpted and plucked
Nick & Jessica (they are over for REAL now)
Selfishness
The War in Iraq....time to end it and bring the troops home!!!
Will & Grace (this is their last season)

BEFORE



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JESUS IS HIS HOMEBOY

By John Bressler

Daniel has never been afraid or embarrassed to talk about who he is. He's proud of who he is and won't change for anyone. That is an amazing quality; to be proud of who you are even if it's not popular. I'm referring to the fact that he is a Christian.

That's right. Daniel likes George W. Bush, Christian music, and hunting. His father was a preacher and his brother is a missionary. He believes in intelligent design, the rapture, and one man, one woman marriage. These are only a few of the reasons I never could have imagined Daniel would be one of my closest friends in the world.

He is in fact a great person to be friends with. The qualities that make a good friend, he has in abundance. His Christian values make him extremely honest and trustworthy. He will never talk badly about someone behind their back. He's also funny, handsome, hard working, creative and never gets mad. Every day Dan says or does something and I just can't hold back the laughter. He is definitely one of the funniest people I've ever known.

Before I met Daniel I thought that all Christians hated us. As a matter of fact, I first told Daniel I was gay when he told me he was voting for Bush43 because of his stance on gay marriage. I was worried that I was going to get punched or even worse hear a speech about how I was going to Hell. I could not have been more wrong. Even though Daniel was shocked, he didn't judge me or treat me any differently as his friend. Since then I've learned that treating people the same is one of the most important things about being a Christian. From him I have come to learn that a true Christian "cannot have any hate in his heart". Christianity is about love and acceptance. Daniel has taught me not to judge people based on their beliefs.

Now looking back at the day I came out to Daniel and thinking he would hate me for being gay, I see that I was actually the one who was walking around with a stereotype of him in my head. I was just as bad as I thought Christians were, even worse because I should have known better. I was judging Daniel; he never judged me.

That day was the beginning of an exchange between us; a kind of a cultural exchange that now has me saying my prayers and Daniel not caring that he's being written about in a gay magazine. Over a few short years we have learned so much from each other. We have moved from tolerating who we are, to accepting each other's differences, to celebrating them.

I thank him for never forcing his religion on me. It would have made me more apprehensive to listen. In the end he has helped me find my own path to God. Daniel is a great friend with a good heart, a great smile, and a Bible on the seat of his pick up truck. I thank him for being the person he is and for not caring about what people think. We've been friends about five or six years; ever since we were in college together. We still work together, with our mutual respect for each other's work ethic as the cornerstone of our friendship.

I'm lucky to have a friend like Daniel. I never would have thought I'd be having conversations about subjects like Noah's Ark. Every day I take something new away from our talks; and I at least get a better sense of where Daniel is coming from. He has showed me that neither of us is right about everything. I have a broader understanding

that neither gays nor Christians are "the bad guys". We are all just doing what we think we have to do to try and make the world a little better.

Daniel admits he was homophobic before he knew I was gay. It's not his fault he grew up in the sticks and never knew a gay guy. Actually he was in his school's drama club and didn't even realize that he was surrounded by gays. It doesn't bother him that I'm gay at all anymore. Almost everyday he asks how my boyfriend and I are doing. He even helps me out with relationship advice. He does still think I can change, though; and there are a few other misconceptions I have to clear up.

Daniel's views on gays don't make him a good or bad person; only how he treats them. And it's the same for me. It's not what I think of evangelical Christians, it's how I treat them. From Dan I've learned that all people should be treated with dignity and respect, not fear and prejudice; just like the President says (except I believe it when Daniel says it).

I don't blindly believe everything he tries to teach me. We will never completely see eye to eye on every thing, and I probably wouldn't want to. The things that make Daniel different from me are what make him special. I like Daniel for who he is and I wouldn't want him to be anyway other than how God made him be.

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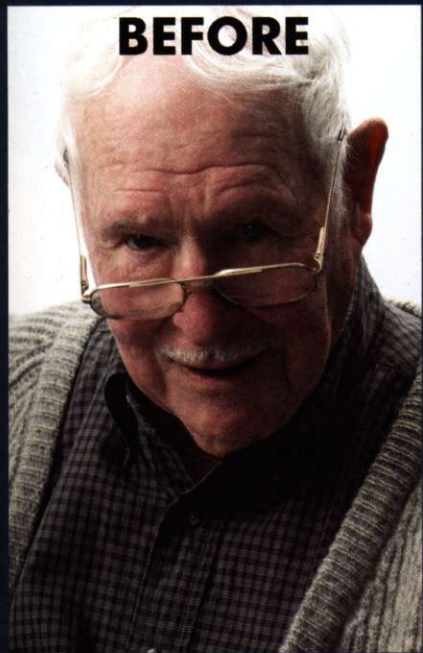
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Recipes from Lily's Cafe

For Your Valentine

By Kyra Alex

Raspberry Chicken

2 lbs. boneless chicken breast
 1 cup flour tossed with salt and pepper for dredging
 2 tbs unsalted butter
 1 bunch green onions, sliced
 1 1/2 tsp dijon mustard
 1 large clove of garlic, minced
 1 1/2 tbs raspberry or red wine vinegar
 1/4 cup sherry or red wine
 2 cups chicken stock
 1/2 cup good quality seedless raspberry jam
 3/4 cup cream
 1 pint fresh raspberries (optional)
 Dash cayenne pepper
 salt to taste

Melt butter in a large heavy skillet. Dredge chicken breasts in flour, shaking off excess flour. Sauté chicken in skillet until golden brown and just cooked through, about six minutes per side. Remove from pan and keep warm. In same skillet, over medium high heat, add vinegar, green onions, mustard and garlic. Cook these ingredients, stirring, for one minute, scraping up any brown bits on the bottom of skillet. Add sherry, bring to a boil and reduce to a thick sauce consistency. Stir in chicken stock and raspberry jam. Bring back to boil and simmer over medium high heat until reduced by half. Stir in cream, cayenne pepper and salt to taste. Add chicken back to skillet, bring sauce to simmer and cook just until chicken is heated through. Garnish chicken with raspberries and serve. Makes a nice dinner with wild rice.

(Serves 4)



Kiss Me I'm Irish!

Classic Corned Beef and Cabbage

1 lean corned beef brisket (4-5 pounds)
 3 medium onions, peeled
 8 whole cloves
 4 cloves of garlic, peeled
 6 sprigs of flat leaf parsley
 8 carrots, peeled and cut into 2-3 inch lengths
 16 small new red potatoes
 1 small head of green cabbage (approx. 3 lbs), cut into 4 wedges
 Salt and pepper to taste

Rinse the corned beef under cold water. Place in a large oven proof casserole dish. Stud each onion with 3 cloves of garlic and add to the casserole along with the garlic and parsley sprigs. Cover the meat and vegetables with cold water and bring to a boil. Reduce the heat to medium low and simmer, partially covered, until the meat is very tender; a meat fork will go easily through it, about 3 hours. Skim off any foam that develops during cooking and turn the meat occasionally. Remove the meat from the pan, leaving the broth, and cover to keep warm. Add the carrots, potatoes and cabbage to the broth in the casserole dish along with salt and pepper to taste. Bring to a boil, reduce heat to medium and simmer vegetables uncovered until the vegetables are tender, about 30 minutes. Serve the meat sliced on a large platter surrounded by vegetables and garnished with fresh chopped parsley. I pour some of the broth (or pot liquor as my mother called it) over the meat to moisten it and serve the rest on the side with good hot mustard and Irish soda bread. (Serves 6-8 people)



Chocolate Strawberry Mousse Tart

Crust:

1 individual package of graham crackers
 3/4 cup almonds
 3 tbs granulated sugar
 6 tbs unsalted butter, melted

"Get Your Heart-On"

Place graham crackers, almonds and sugar in the bowl of a food processor and process until crackers and almonds are finely ground. With machine running pour in melted butter, and mix until well combined. Pour crust crumbs into a 9 - 11 inch tart pan with removable bottom (a spring form pan will work just fine). Bake in a 300 degree oven for 10-15 minutes or until golden and set. Cool completely.

Filling:

1 pound semi sweet chocolate chips
 1 cup cream
 2 cups heavy cream
 2 cups fresh or frozen strawberries (you can omit the fruit or use another favorite berry)

Place chocolate in large bowl. Place one cup of cream in medium saucepan and bring to boil. Immediately remove from heat and pour over chocolate. Stir until melted and smooth. Spread 1/3 of chocolate mixture onto bottom of cooled crust. Chill until firm. Let remaining chocolate cool to room temperature. Whip the two cups of heavy cream until it holds soft peaks. Gently fold the whipped cream into the room temperature chocolate until well blended. Remove chocolate filled crust from the refrigerator. Sprinkle fruit over the chilled chocolate and top this with the chocolate mousse, spreading evenly to cover. Allow tart to set in fridge for a few hours before serving. Serve garnished with grated chocolate and fresh berries.

(Serves 8-10 people)

Irish Soda Bread

2 cups all purpose flour
 1/4 cup sugar
 1 1/2 tsp baking soda
 1/2 tsp salt
 1/2 cup raisins (optional)
 1 1/4 cups low fat plain yogurt
 1 large egg, beaten
 1 tbs unsalted butter, melted

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Place the flour, sugar, baking soda, salt and raisins into a large mixing bowl, whisking lightly to combine. In another bowl combine the yogurt, egg and butter. Add the yogurt mixture to the dry ingredients with a wooden spoon and stir until mixed. Form the dough into a disk about 6 inches across and about 2 1/2 inches thick. Using a sharp knife, cut an X into the top of the dough. Bake until golden brown and the bread sounds hollow when tapped on the bottom, about 40 minutes. (makes 1 loaf)

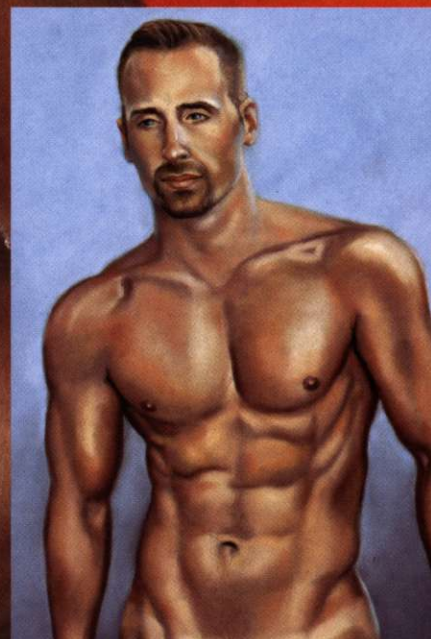
They're always after me lucky charms!

Michael Breyette

"The male body is a true work of art."

RED, WET, AND BLUE

Usually when I am working on a new piece, the name for it always comes to me long before I am done with it. But this one ended up being the second work that I asked my subscribers for help in naming. Soap and bubbles are still one of those fun little details for me. Sure, the hot guy clad in a wet pair of briefs was fun to draw as well. But the bubbles just add so much interest for me.



Self Portrait

Born and raised in conservative upstate New York. Now resides in gay-friendly Massachusetts.

Inspiration: Can be another artist or style. A guy at the check-out. Or even the weather. Models: Sometimes will build my own models but try to keep them based in reality. Other times, I may create from photos sent to me.



SOAK

For some time I had been wanting to do a painting taking a bath. And having always enjoyed weaving trasting themes into my artwork, I thought it would to show a rugged cowboy enjoying a soothing bubble by candlelight. The suds were a lot of fun to do. I believe there is nothing that cannot benefit from the addition of suds.



LAS VEGAS:

When I visited the legendary city of Las Vegas for the first time earlier this year, I was not sure I would ever want to go back. The people, the flashing lights, the "sin city" atmosphere -- it can only be described as overwhelming and over the top. But, after looking through some of my photographic memories, I found myself thinking that a return trip might not be so bad. The beauty of the surrounding landscape was something I definitely had not expected. I just need to keep in mind that there is more to Vegas than its nighttime sensory assault. And, just because after a few days I may be ready to escape, it does not mean I will never return.



BREAKFAST IN BED

really enjoy drawing romantic settings. And what's more romantic than your partner serving you breakfast in bed? While the entire piece was fun to do, I particularly enjoyed drawing the juice and muffin, and the steam rising from the coffee. It is the small things that make me happy.



SUMMER MOVED ON

I was in the mood to work on a piece featuring the sun-bleached faded colors that remind me so much of Cape Cod. I try to put myself in the painting's setting, imagining the sound of the waves, the smell of the ocean, the feel of the sand under my bare feet... and then incorporating those elements into the work.



"DRENCHED"

brings together several of my favorite themes. First, I love doing series. I like to create a narrative with my works, and by doing a series, the story gets to continue from one work to the next. And originally the weather was not a major component of this piece. But I really enjoy making things look moist. And finally, I like incorporating the real world into my works. One way I do that is to use famous settings as the backdrops to my creations.



GUILTY CONSCIENCE

I did this piece with just a theme of regret, confession and guilt in mind. I have my own thoughts of what the back story is here. You may share mine or have your own. It is easier to connect with the viewer over a shared emotion rather than a specific experience.



DUNES:

This piece was inspired by an upcoming trip and memories of past visits to Ogunquit. While there are no nude beaches there, it is the Fire Island or Provincetown of Maine. So guys baring all is not an uncommon sight.



BUDS

I usually do a bit of narrative planning before starting a new piece. But with this one, I just had the idea of two blue-collar-type guys having a peaceful nap together. After I had the subjects drawn, the setting of a mattress on the floor with a couple of empty beer bottles nearby made its way onto the paper.

Fabrics used to be a challenge for me, with their various textures and folds, trying to figure out how things would look and behave. But I've found that if I just don't think about it too much, it just flows naturally from me.

BREYETTE

OUT & NAKED COMEDIAN TIM MILLER'S US IS COMING TO YOUR TOWN

"In US, I finally come out as a big musical show queen. When I was a little gay boy, these Broadway shows were my crucial finishing school for my blooming queer identity and offered a juicy cocktail of diva agency and general fabulousness."

"[Musicals] provided my earliest political education. Forget Marx and Engels. I had Rogers and Hammerstein!"

"From Ancient Greece to 'Naked Boys Singing,' I think the theater and performance has always been a place where the body gets figured out. I'm sure those theater-queen audiences in the 5th Century BC were looking forward to seeing the fresh crop of cute chorus boys in Euripides' new play."

Edited by **S. Daniel Ackerman**

When Tim Miller decides to put on a striptease, mere disrobing could never do. In his new comedic solo show *Us*, Tim describes the naked performance section as "a wild meltdown Bush-nightmare political striptease." It is a far cry from the little eight-year-old boy tossing off his mismatched pajamas for the neighbor boys with Gypsy on the record player.

For Tim Miller, a Hummel figurine burlesque show was just the beginning. He can relate to the story of Gypsy Lee Rose, the famous burlesque stripper: "Like her I wanted to escape from my family, find my voice, find a better place, and take off my clothes onstage in front of men all over America." Musical theater proved to be Tim's perfect getaway vehicle.

The autobiographical *Us* explores Tim's lifelong love affair with Broadway musicals, crosscut with a look at the injustices that rush between his legs. Set to Don't Rain on My Parade and occurring on Tim and his partner's wedding day, this last scene must be particularly heart wrenching to perform.

You see, Tim's partner of the last eleven years is Australian writer and performer Alistair McCartney, and he is currently facing deportation. Because the United States refuses to recognize same-sex marriages, if they wish to maintain their relationship Tim must go into exile with Alistair, but he will not go without a fight. He has been an activist both on and off the stage for well over two decades. In 1990, he and three other homosexual performance artists successfully sued the federal government for rescinding funding awarded them from the National Endowment for the Arts, but his fight to keep Alistair in America may prove more difficult.

If American bigotry causes us to lose Tim Miller, we will lose so much more than a self-described "big musical show queen." He is an author, performer, professor, activist, and who knows what else. But he is also in love. And we all know what pull will be strongest.

"I'm not afraid to fulfill this stereotype as the little gay kid who loved musicals."

"In my work, I am always more interested in exploring the more vulnerable and fucked-up parts of myself in a naked performance section."

"A naked weenie or butt onstage is not that interesting in itself, but rather becomes important for us to look at as it reveals the feelings, complexity, desires, details, and revelations of our lives."

ONE NIGHT ONLY
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Miss Coco Peru

Interviewed by **Matthias**



Miss Coco Peru is known for her role in the films *Straight-Jacket* (2004), *Girls Will Be Girls* (2003), *Trick* (1999), *Beeban Jidron's*, *Two Wong Foo*, *Thanks for Everything!* Julie Newmar (1995), and her show "Miss Coco Peru's Universe" in California. Coco also won a Maddy Award for Excellence In Theatre in January 2002 for "Miss Coco Peru: Glorious Wounds? she's damaged" at the L.A. Gay & Lesbian Center. TV Guest Appearances include: *Boy Meets Boy* (2003), *Will & Grace* (1998), *Rude Awakening* (1998), *New York Undercover* (1994).

MATTHIAS: I think you are a wonderful person inside and out. You are very talented as well as funny, and you look great!

COCO: First of all, Matthias, let me just say, thank you for saying that I am funny and a good person inside and out and especially for saying that I look great. You now have to say that to me at least once a week. Okay, how did I discover drag? Well, honestly I was a bit frightened of drag queens before I did drag, but at the same time I was intrigued. I guess I was frightened because there was something within myself I was avoiding. I was brought up to believe that my being effeminate was bad. In acting classes I was always told to butch up, so drag, in a way, represented everything I was told to avoid if I was going to be successful. But when I was in my twenties I went to Peru to visit my boyfriend at that time and I was introduced to a drag queen named Coco who was quite famous in his/her country. I was impressed by his persona and his/her power, I was impressed that in a macho and Catholic country s/he was doing drag and really being celebrated for it. I understood then, that regardless of what people believe, if you are truthful and have courage, people will be drawn to you and respect you. You can't do it half-assed, you have to go right to the edge, and look at the world head on and claim your rightful place here. I used to ride the train in NYC in drag and I was never bothered. I was called a faggot more when I was in the closet, but when I accepted everything I had been told to hate about myself and took it a step further and decided to do drag, it seemed that my masculinity came through stronger the more I embraced my femininity, and people were drawn to me. Drag has been very healing as well as outrageously fun for me. Also, I had read two books about the Native American two-spirit. These were men who, in their tribes, dressed in some sort of women's fashion and often assumed women's names and roles. They were not outcasts and were often the shamans and story tellers within their communities. Their presence was not only accepted as a part of nature, it was valued. Reading these books made me realize that I was a two-spirit, and although our society had no role for me and no role models for me growing up, I was going to reclaim my role as a two-spirit, and embrace the male and female within myself. Coco Peru is a modern day two-spirit storytelling gender bending creation on a mission to entertain but also here to leave this world a little safer for those future two-spirits yet to come.

MATTHIAS: Do you have the support from your family? If so, have they always supported you?

COCO: I have had total support from my family from the moment I told them I was going to do drag. I am very fortunate that way. My parents lost my sister when she was only fifteen, I was three-months old when she died and I think losing a child prepared my parents to accept me for whomever I was. Also, my parents always knew I was different (having the entire cast album of *Fiddler On The Roof* memorized by the age of two was a sign) and I think they saw me as being very happy and creative when I discovered drag. When they first came to the shows and saw the audience laughing and crying and really relating to my stories regardless of one's sexuality, they knew that I was doing what I was meant to do.

MATTHIAS: How does the public, as well as everyday people react to you? Do you get more respect or are you treated differently when you are dressed up?

And are there people that would prefer you to be a guy and not do drag?

COCO: The public has really embraced Coco Peru. When I go to an audition or business meeting I sometimes walk a bit through my neighborhood in drag and I love that people who wouldn't look at me twice dressed as a boy, stop me and say hello. I think it's important to brighten the neighborhood every now and then. As far as people not wanting me to do drag, I don't really experience that. I do experience what I call drag phobia, and surprisingly I experience it in the gay and entertainment communities. Recently, I heard a openly gay performer saying that he thought it was time for gay men to quit the drag thing and embrace our masculinity. But again, it was when I embraced being a drag queen that my masculinity and femininity began to balance out and I became a happier person. So I say everyone should try drag. You see, when I'm in drag I am on the edge, I am in the moment and most spiritual gurus say that we should live in the moment, so for me, being in drag is a spiritual calling that helps me understand the human condition of being both sacred/profane, male/female etc. The human condition is a this or that reality, but in drag I get to be both and I think that this is a higher reality and also one of the reasons people are drawn and have always been drawn to drag queens. At least this is my experience. So forget your expensive gurus and go buy a dress and some heels and find out how fabulous you really are. But then again, what the hell do I know? It is also my experience that when you think you've got it all figured out, you don't.

MATTHIAS: You seem to travel a lot. Is that for work or pleasure, and where is your favorite place in the world to go? and why? (Continued on next page)



COCO: I love to travel for pleasure. I get to go to Spain every year and visit my partner's family. I feel so lucky to experience a Spain that most tourists never get to experience. I'm just happy to sit in a cafe and have a coffee and a croissant and watch people in some beautiful old city and pretend that I'm just a little more fabulous than I am. Also, I always wanted a boyfriend who would be proud to introduce me to his family and Rafael did that. And not only did he do that for me, but his family has embraced us, and they love when we visit and they enjoy treating us so well. I would have never guessed that this would be possible when I was that frightened boy growing up in the Bronx and was being made fun of every day, but the impossible became possible and then became my reality. My ex couldn't do that for me and it really bothered me, so I feel so happy to have this Spanish boyfriend and his wonderful family in my life. My family also loves Rafael and we really are both pleased that we have all this love and support in our lives. And those nude beaches in Spain...Ohhh!!!!

MATTHIAS: Yea, Gotta love those nude beaches! Have you ever gone to Fire Island, NY? Or Gunnison Beach, Sandy Hook, NJ?

COCO: I've been to Fire Island a few times to perform my show and that is where I met Rafael, so Fire Island will always be special to me.

MATTHIAS: Have you ever been to Rehoboth Beach, Delaware?

COCO: No. Rehobowho?

MATTHIAS: Well, I guess I took up enough of your time! Is there anything at all, that you'd like to say? Or shall we just plan on when we are going to hit the Nude Beaches?

COCO: I'm sitting on one right now!

MATTHIAS: Thank you so much Coco, for taking the time to answer the questions, and allowing me to do this interview. It is great for us to be able to get to know you a little better. I look forward to watching you grow in everything you do in your career, and I am sure I speak for many people out there as well. Also, I am trying to plan an event later this year with artists, drag queens and performers, either in Philadelphia, PA, or in Rehoboth Beach, Delaware, I would love for you to come if you aren't busy! I will see you next month when I come to LA.

COCO: Thank you but I am so busy sweeping my patio and talking to my plants that I'll have to get back to you when I free up.



You can find out more about Coco by going to her website at: www.MissCoco.com
Contact Matthias at: www.guys.nl/matthias

THE ETHICS AND POLITICS OF **IDENTITY** gay activist & performance artist

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Blaming Andy Warhol

by Bruce F. Brown

What a bitch (and I have many). It seems too many of us are getting our rocks off trying to live up to one of Andy Warhol's predictions. Some time ago he muttered "Everyone will have 15 minutes of Fame." That's my capital eff for emphasis, as well as Andy's, who spoke the opposite of e. e. cummings, who had forgotten where the shift key was. Andy liked capital letters, exclamation points, question marks and, especially, big cans of soup. And plain old tomato, at that. I could understand if it was vegetarian minestrone or something else with a little flair like tomato bisque. He must have liked plain old tomato. What he didn't like was living up to his own words.

There are various degrees of fame that range from sublime to outrageous, Mr. Warhol being a case in point. And now the chase is on to get some, any of it. Everyone is doing their little Boho dance, looking for some kind of media attention. Many people aren't even aware of the struggle and are unwittingly going along for the ride without knowing there's a fare to pay, and a tip. Those who do know have already tipped.

I'm not faulting Andy for what he said. Given enough monkeys and typewriters, they would have come up with the same thing. What unnerves me is that he didn't give any rules. Not even a hint of guidelines. This leaves us to our own devices and, being human beings, we came up with some pretty interesting devices that run on all kinds of power, including rechargeable batteries.

Some people go whole hog and gobble up their 15 minutes at one time, making the best of their stab for recognition and moving on. Because of the very nature of who they are, too many others have stretched their Warhol-ed allotment to months, even years. They're in a class, no not class, a club all their own: the movie stars, the sportsters, the politicians, the serial rapists. They really know how to stretch their time in the fame department. If they plan it right, they can overshadow even the most important news event: Brad and Angeline and Ben and JenLo spring to mind.

Unfortunately, we usually don't know who the serial rapist is until they're caught. And when we do find out, the spotlight shifts and everyone wants to know if the parents or the schools or the priest or the local probation officer wasn't to blame. So, there sits the serialist, nudged from notoriety, contemplating their navel behind steel bars with the only hope of recognition coming at trial. As a newspaper item, their feature starts anywhere from page A5 through A8. On television, it airs between 7 to 13 minutes into the broadcast, depending on the heinousness of the crime and whether there's a sale at WeSellCrap-A-Lot that week. If they get "the chair," they start off in the lower right-hand corner of the front page with a picture, two paragraphs and a continuation on A12. Or, it's the lead story at the top of the hour with a follow-up on a Fox news expose.

Some people, like myself, have been plucking away at fame in dribs and drabs, snatching what we can where we can. My first two-and-a-half minutes of fame came at the tender age of seven when I was given a taste of theater. Dear old mom was commissioned, roped into it, actually, to "present a presentation" at the Seipstown Grange. (For those who don't know, Seipstown is a suburb of Breinigsville.) I sang and tap danced to "Me and My Teddy Bear." I was a hit. They loved me. Ah, the sweet smell of applause, that snippet of fame. I wanted more.

Another two and a half minutes is claimed by the numerous articles written about me, all glowing, except the one on how I burned out the third floor of my parent's house. I didn't plan it. I was nine and playing with matches and candles. My mom was relieved that I wasn't lighting cigarettes. My dad was glad to see all the junk tossed out the window. He'd been trying to get my mom to throw that stuff out for years. I did it in twenty minutes. It was an odd bonding moment.

Some years later, I happen to be at Hess's Department Store looking at the new toys, drooling. I was 11 and beginning to learn decadence. Max knew what he was doing. (Am I showing my age, or what?) A photographer from the local rag came up, took my picture and offered me a tissue. I made it to the papers. I give it 30 seconds.

My glowing reports dealt with excursions into theater. I could go on and on about this, but I shan't. Even though it is about me and I am my favorite topic for discussion, it is getting a little tiring. However, I have done some thought on how I would like my remaining time to go, how to make them venerable and beneficial, but the media is so hard to coerce, especially if you don't have any clout.

This makes me wonder about "the little guy," the clout-less. Do they mind not having any? Do they care? I doubt that they go to bed any night wondering when their time will come. The Grim Reaper, perhaps, but not Mr. Fame. What a state to be in. It must be Iowa. I question whether or not they even know Mr. Warhol there. Can you imagine it? Before Andy spoke up, we were all Iowans, keeping the news for the club members.

After that fateful utterance, it became a rat race with lots of no-ones scrambling for at least a scrap of media attention, that little piece of cheese, even if it is moldy. In 1977, we wouldn't care that a lowly White House intern was going to college in England, years after performing her duties on, excuse me, for the presidency. We do now. Why is that? Are we so awash with data that the trivial or sensational takes on significance? I'm not saying let's go back to smoke signals. But if this blazing inferno of divulging unwanted factoids keeps burning, there won't be a blanket big enough to send a signal. Besides, conflagrations usually burn blankets.

What I'm trying to get at in such a long and debilitating manner is that I'm blaming Andy Warhol for this particular segment of the maze of popular culture. Before him, a lot of people didn't care if they had any minutes of fame. Not even ten seconds mattered. Before he spoke up, I would have been happy with only "Me and My Teddy Bear." And the Hess's picture. But, burning out the third floor of my parent's house, I figure, cancels out the first two very nicely, thank you very much. In my typical addictive-style, I want more. I want to live forever, as the old song goes.

So, I'm joining that ambitious force that's paying homage to the dead artist, a tribute to a fallen hero. We're all scrambling for our fifteen minutes and there are only so many fifteen-minutes in a day: 96, to be exact if you're counting contiguous segments. If they overlap at five minute intervals, we can squeeze in 286. At one minute intervals it's 1,426 and at one second intervals, well, you get the picture. Thank goodness for cable and the internet. With new channels opening up all the time, they just might fit. (Multiply any of the above numbers by the growing number of cable channels to get an idea of the possibilities.) Now all we have to do is watch to see who's looking when and where to find out what persona is at the pinnacle of the pile. And it's going to be a pile, believe me. The base has been building for years and the blanket weavers are working at a fervid pitch.

So, jump on the bandwagon and get a publicist, one you can call your very own. Work with him or her (more catering); develop a strategy that lets you ascend to the apex of that heap. And please don't forget, when your 15 minutes are up, your 15 minutes are up. If you want more, try to restrain yourself and curse Andy Warhol. At least, that's what I'm doing from where I sit.



Derrick Davenport

Interview: **Stephen Libby**
Photography: **Steve Henry**

This South Carolina native has found fame in the past year beginning with his HOT ASS cover and spread in the February 05 issue of Playgirl Magazine and continuing with representation from Mega- Muscle.com with personal appearances, a calendar and video. Breaking the myth of a dumb model, Derrick attended USC with a concentration in exercise science and specialized in health terminology. A well rounded athlete (football, soccer, martial arts), Derrick has modeled for 3 years and been active with the Marines for four. He feels fortunate to have a very proportionate body. He aspires to have a TV workout program and open a training studio. While not interested in doing video porn, when pushed to name his ideal video partner he replies...oh, just read the interview.

Gaydar Magazine: Did you ever think you'd be a Playgirl Centerfold?

Derrick Davenport: No. But my best friend, whose gay and a photographer in Germany, took some photos and started showing my portfolio.

GM: What's life been like since then?

DD: Lots of traveling and modeling since May 2005.

GM: Any drawbacks to this success?

DD: I lost my job as a strength conditioning coach because I am too busy.

GM: Misconceptions?

DD: There is the illusion that I live the life of the character in the photos. I don't. I've actually met and had coffee with some of the people who write me.

GM: Romantic life?

DD: This career doesn't allow for much of a romantic life. I'm kinda ready in some aspects. I'm 27. But, I need to play this out.

GM: Okay, let's cut to the chase. Guys you find attractive?

DD: (laughs) Well, I'm straight. But, I'm not afraid to admire guys with an attractive or amazing body(his words) like Lance La Mare, Dave Nathan, David Fox, Brad Pitt, The Rock.

GM: Too bad you haven't thought about this, straight boy. Have you/will you do porn videos?

DD: I prefer artful, tasteful photos and video. I have done full frontal photos. I had a guy who offered to be my "model manager". Turns out he was a pimp. I've been offered jack-off videos. Morally, I just couldn't do it. I want to keep my image more clean than that.

GM: If you were to do a porno who would be your ideal mate?

DD: Jessica Simpson. (interviewer goes limp) I like natural beauty. Maybe she has fake boobs. But she's in proportion. Southern personality and innocence.

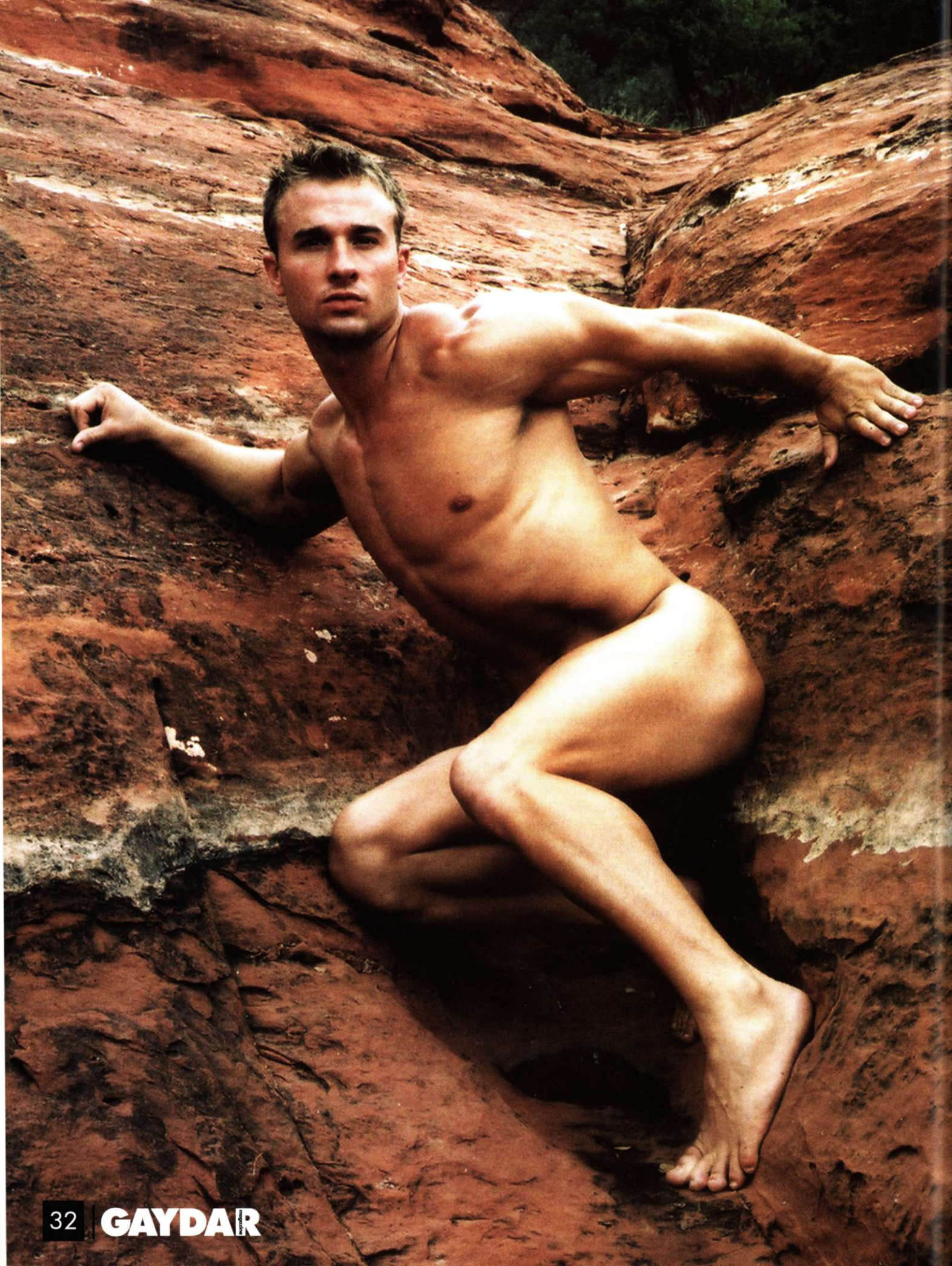
GM: Coolest place you've been?

DD: While staying in Las Vegas, I stayed in Frank Sinatra's old house.

GM: Message to Gaydar Magazine readers?

DD: I wouldn't be able to do what I do if it weren't for the support and loyalty of the people. Don't lose sight of your dreams. Make sure you get what you want out of life!



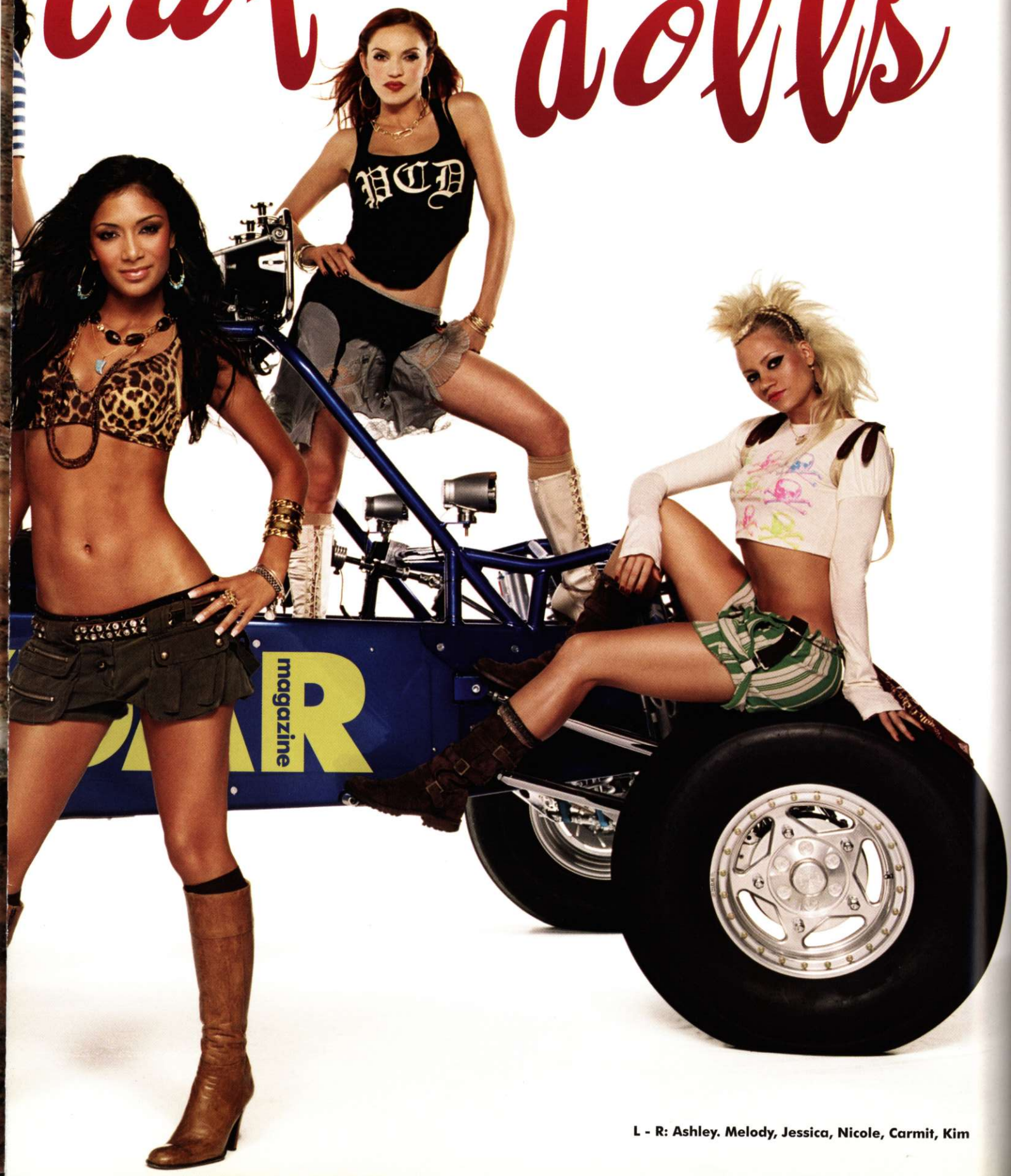


the Pussy



Photo by James White

cat dolls



L - R: Ashley, Melody, Jessica, Nicole, Carmit, Kim





GAYDAR magazine

Derrick
Davenport

Photo by **Steve Henry**



Favorites

Car: Austin-Martin

Drink: Captain Morgan & Coke or during a shoot Grey Goose & water w/lemon

Classic Hottie: Marilyn Monroe, Madonna (do I hear a closet door opening?)

Sexual Position: missionary position with their legs on my shoulders. Or doggie-style.

Turn-ons: physical appearance and personality.

Turn-offs: arrogance

Song that makes you want to dance: Lose Control by Missy Elliot

Ice cream: Stone Cold Creamery's amaretto with strawberry & graham cracker

Worst Habit: when I'm stressed out I tend to pull out my eyebrows (ouch!)

Vice: Reese's peanut butter cups (laughs). As soon as I got out of boot camp my mom bought me a BIG bag and I ate them all!

SAVED

magazine





Happy
Valentine's Day

XOXO,
Derrick Davenport
& The Staff at Gaydar Magazine

#10 of 2005

GROOVES

10. *Tequila Makes her Clothes Fall Off*- Joe Nichols
9. *La Tortua*- Shakira
8. *Hung Up*- Madonna
7. *Feels Good, Inc*- Gorillaz
6. *Sugar, We're Going' Down*- Fall Out Boy
5. *Since You Been Gone*-Kelly Clarkson
4. *1 Thing*- Amerie
3. *Love Me Like You*- The Magic Numbers
2. *Mr. Brightside*- The Killers
1. *Goldigger*- Kanye West

iDIOT bOX

10. *Commander in Chief*
9. *Kitchen Confidential*
8. *Entourage*
7. *Everybody Hates Chris*
6. *Laguna Beach*
5. *Ellen DeGeneres*
4. *My Name is Earl*
3. *Prison Break*
2. *Real Time W/ Bill Maher*
1. *Arrested Development*

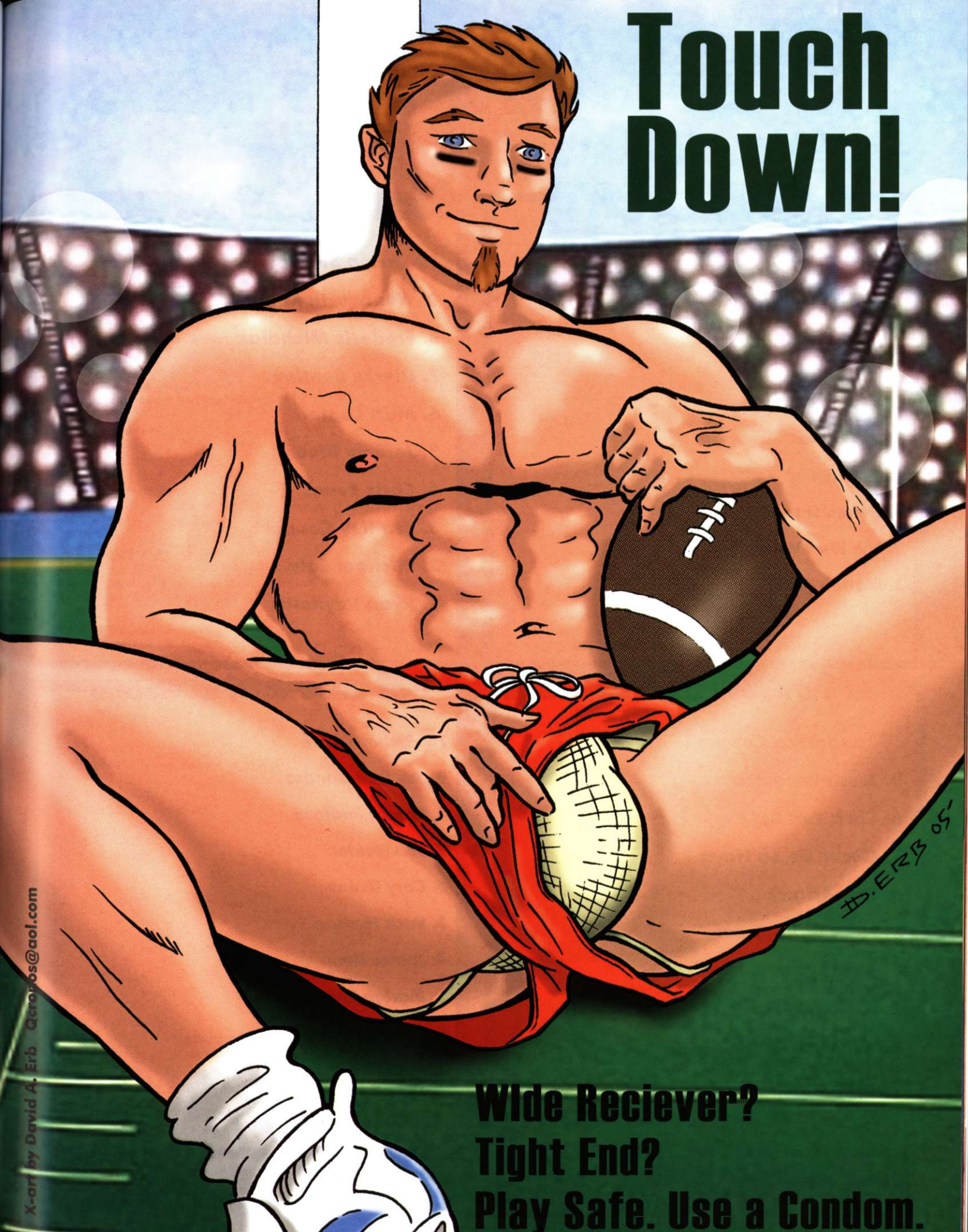
FLICKS

10. *Happy Endings*
9. *Crash*
8. *Harry Potter & the Goblet of Fire*
7. *Curse of the Were-Rabbit*
6. *Wedding Crashers*
5. *March of the Penguins*
4. *Capote*
3. *The 40-Year Old Virgin*
2. *Brokeback Mountain*
1. *Mad, Hot Ballroom*

ALBUMS

10. *Breakaway*- Kelly Clarkson
9. *You Could Have it so Much Better*- Franz Ferdinand
8. *Extraordinary Machine*- Fiona Apple
7. *The Road Less Traveled*- Melissa Etheridge
6. *Z- My Morning Jacket*
5. *The Magic Numbers*
4. *Love.Angel.Music.Baby*- Gwen Stefani
3. *Employment*- The Kaiser Chiefs
2. *Confessions on a Dance Floor*- Madonna
1. *Legend*- Johnny Cash

Touch Down!



**Wide Receiver?
Tight End?
Play Safe. Use a Condom.**

Even More Top Tens

COMEBACKS

10. Kirstie Alley
9. Truman Capote
8. The Rolling Stones
7. King Kong
6. Heath Ledger
5. Madonna
4. Tab Hunter
3. Genna Davis
2. The West Wing
1. Mariah Carey

New Wet Dreams

10. Jason Statham
9. Wentworth Miller
8. Frederic Michalak
7. Dierks Bentley
6. Matt Lanter
5. Jeremy Bloom
4. Chris Evans
3. Bradley Cooper
2. Michael Ealy
1. Ryan Reynolds

Not So New Wet Dreams

10. Anderson Cooper
9. Jesse Bradford
8. Christian Bale
7. Oscar De La Hoya
6. Ben Affleck
5. Jake Gyllenhaal
4. Brad Pitt
3. Orlando Bloom
2. Clive Owen
1. Taye Diggs

Classic Wet Dreams

10. Richard Gere
9. Joe Dallesandro
8. Robert Redford
7. Tab Hunter
6. Cary Grant
5. Rock Hudson
4. James Dean
3. Marlon Brando
2. Montgomery Clift
1. Paul Newman

HOT DJ Joe Gauthreaux

Gaydar Magazine: Why do you do it?

Joe Gauthreaux: I love the music. The crowd response. There's nothing like playing that new hot track.

GM: Advice to aspiring DJ's?

JG: Believe in yourself and have talent...please! Don't do it just because you look good or want to get laid.

GM: Hitched or single?

JG: I'm not in a relationship currently.

GM: Favorite Valentine's memory?

JG: I've never been seeing anyone. And I was raised Jehovah's Witness and we were not allowed to celebrate holidays.

GM: What's down the road?

JG: Since I work out of the house, I look forward to coming home to a partner and dinner.

GM: Describe your style?

JG: I'm very shy, actually. Some DJ's put their arms in the air to get the crowd going. People think I'm sad.

GM: You must get hit on alot?

JG: Last week a guy came into the booth and requested the new Madonna song. "If you play it twice, you can play me twice." It's a song that that can be played once a night and so I said "no, but if I play it once can I play you once?"

GM: Your type?

JG: Tall, blond hair, blue eyes. Looks get you 5 minutes, the rest is up to you. I love intellectual guys.

GM: What can't you live without?

JG: Easy. My I-Pod.

GM: Favorite place to spin?

JG: Hydrant in Chicago and anywhere in NYC cuz I live here.

GM: Worst habit?

JG: I don't know. Name some...

GM: Cigarettes?

JG: I don't smoke...

GM: Drugs?

JG: They're bad for you?

GM: Favorite song from your childhood?

JG: The Tide is High by Blondie.

GM: Classic hottie?

JG: Scott Baio. I really like his body.

GM: Current hottie?

JG: Tom Welling. He has that man/boy thing going on.

GM: Diva Deathmatch- Madonna vs Mariah. Who wins?

JG: Madonna would be victorious. Why? Cuz she's the queen bee!

GM: What dance would you like see make a comeback?

JG: Either the Hustle or the Bus Stop would be great.

DJ JOE'S top 10 LIST

1. John Farnham - The Age of Reason
2. Erasure - Blue Savannah
3. Madagascar - You're Beautiful
4. Detroit Emeralds - Feel the Need in Me
5. Safri Duo - Played Alive
6. Alyson Limerick - Where Love Lives
7. M People - How Can I Love You More
8. David Guetta - The World is Mine
9. Texas - I Don't Want a Lover
10. Shapeshifters - Lola's Theme

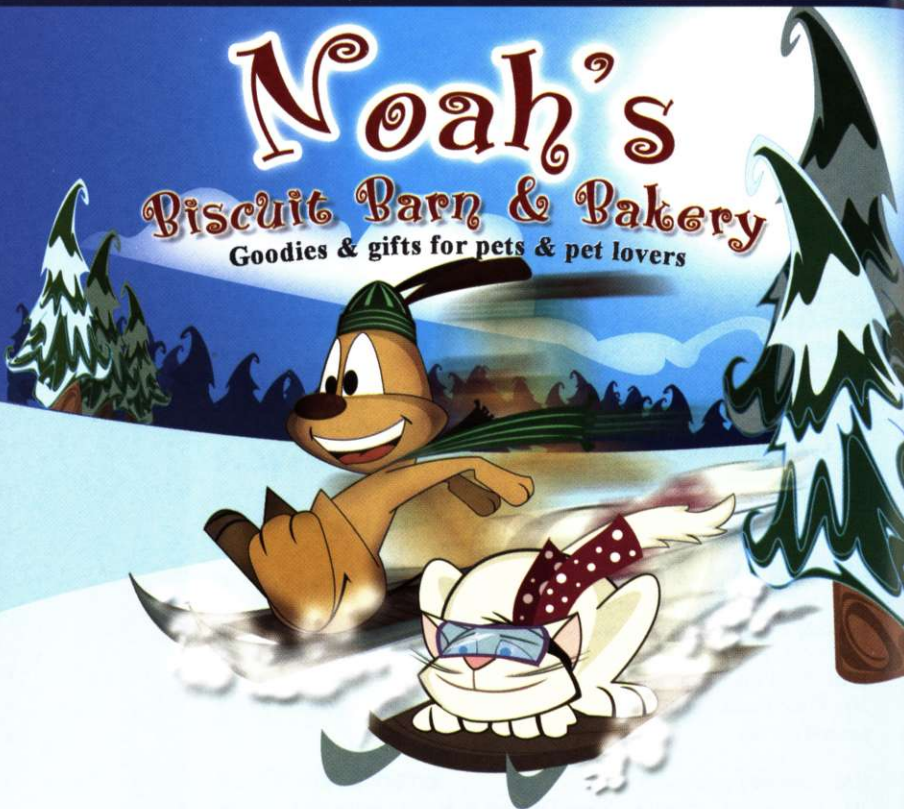
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FUR BALLS

PET TIPS

By Leslie Horvath

1. Keep your cat inside. Outside, felines can freeze, become lost or stolen, injured or killed. Cats that are allowed to stray can also become exposed to infectious diseases, including rabies, from other cats, dogs, and wildlife.

2. During the winter, outdoor cats sometimes sleep under the hoods of cars. When the motor is started, the cat can be injured or killed by the fan belt. If there are outdoor cats in your neighborhood, bang loudly on the car hood before starting the engine to give the cat a chance to escape.

3. Never let your dog off the leash on snow or ice, especially during a snowstorm. Dogs can lose their scent and easily become lost. More dogs are lost during the winter than during any other season. Keep your dog leashed and make sure the collar has an ID tag.

4. Thoroughly wipe off your dog's legs and stomach when coming in out of the sleet, snow, or ice. Dogs can ingest salt, antifreeze or other potentially dangerous chemicals while licking their paws. The paw pads may also bleed from the encrusted ice.

5. Never shave your dog down to the skin in winter, as the long coat will provide warmth. When you bathe your dog in the colder months, be sure to completely dry your furry friend before going outside for a walk. Own a short-haired breed?

Consider a coat or a sweater with a high collar or turtleneck with coverage from the neck to the tail (runs along the animals back) and from the neck/chest area to the belly (underside of animal). For many dogs, this is regulation winter wear.

6. Never leave your dog or cat alone in a car during cold weather. A car can act as a refrigerator in the winter, holding in the cold and causing the animal to freeze to death.

7. Puppies do not tolerate the cold as well as adult dogs, and may be difficult to housebreak during the winter. If your puppy appears sensitive to the weather, you may opt to paper-train instead. If your dog is sensitive to the cold due to age, illness, or breed type, take your dogs outside only to relieve themselves.

8. Does your dog spend a lot of time engaged in outdoor activities? Increase your dog's supply of food, particularly protein, to keep the coat of fur in tip-top shape.

9. Like coolant, antifreeze is a lethal poison to cats and dogs. Be sure to thoroughly clean up any spills from your vehicle, and consider using products that contain propylene glycol rather than ethylene glycol. Visit the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center for more information.

10. Make sure your companion animal has a warm place to sleep off of the floor and away from all drafts. A cozy dog or cat bed with a warm blanket or pillow is perfect.

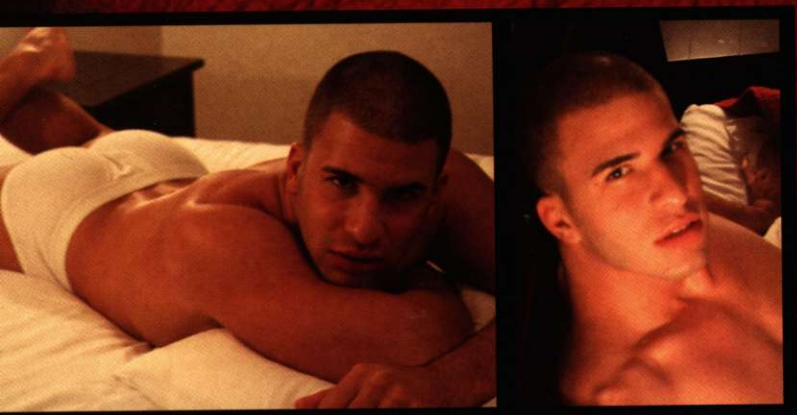
Michael

Let's say that a hot bartender wants to model for your magazine. And let's say an upscale establishment offers you one of their newly renovated rooms to shoot said model. And let's say the bartender is Michael and the establishment is The Raven. What to do? What to do? Well, I grabbed two of our best photographers and high tailed it to The Raven. Enjoy the fruits of our labor. Check out the Raven's ad on the inside back cover.

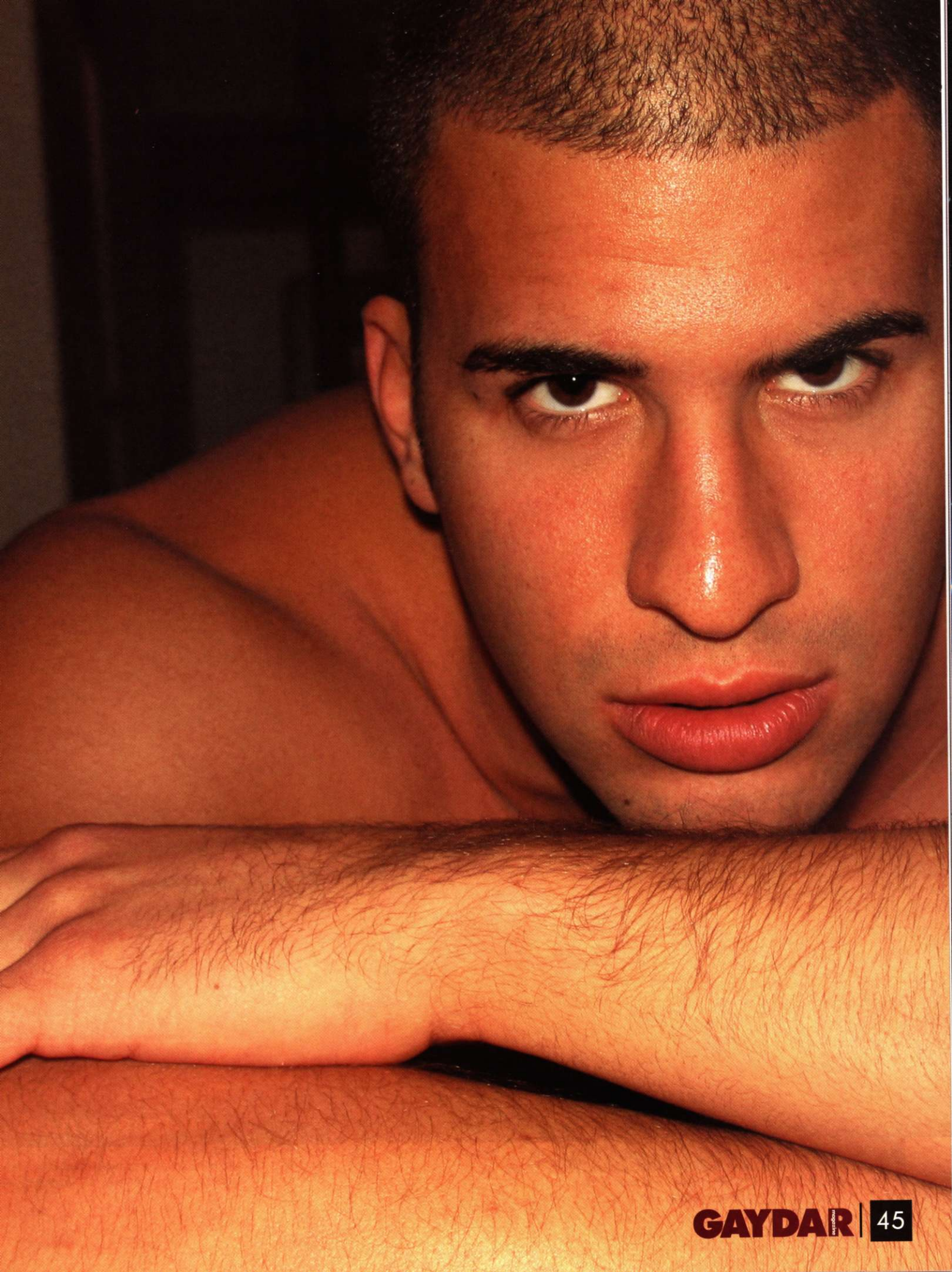
Photos by
Lance Fisher
Stephen Libby
Daniel Mare

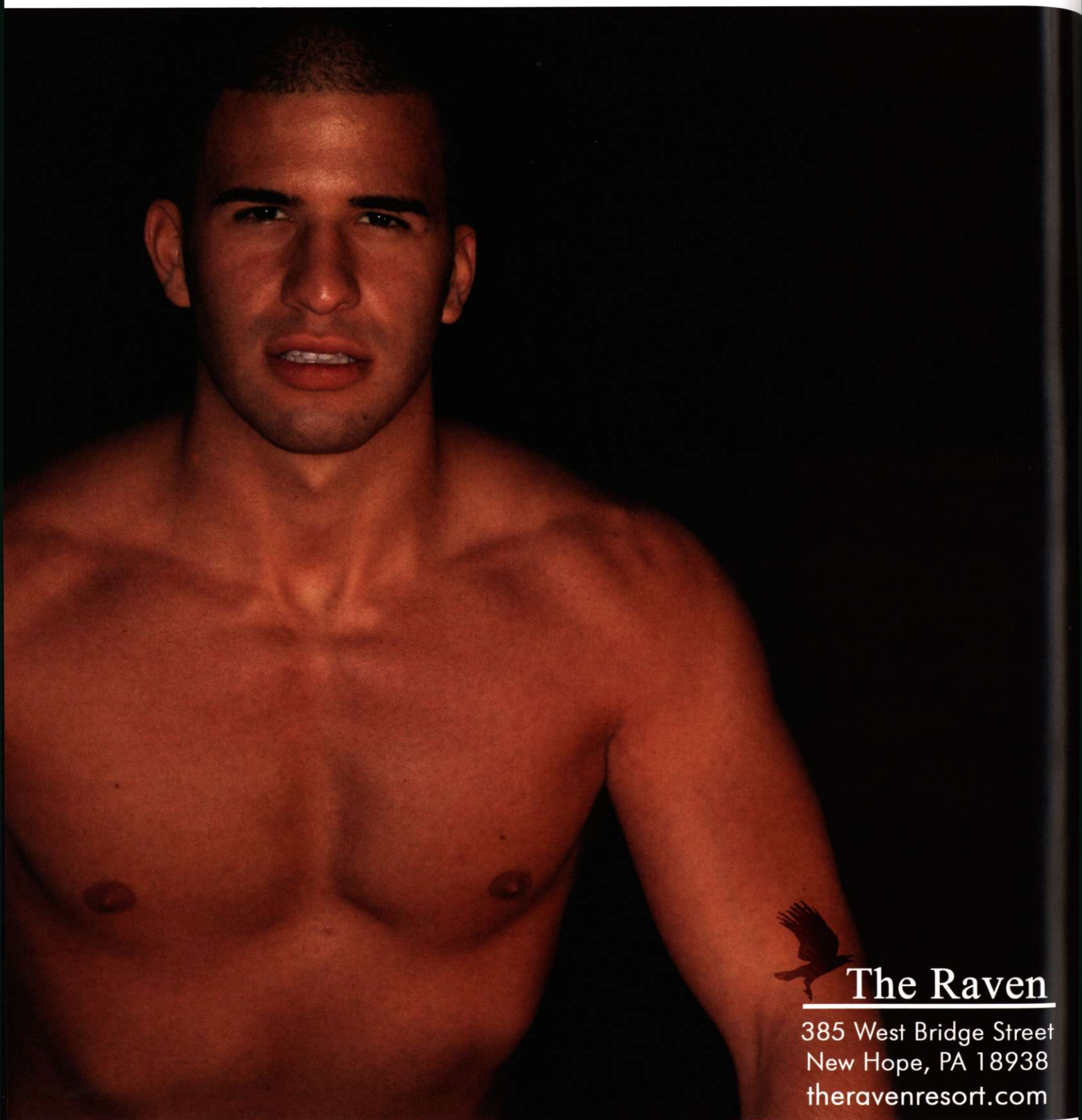
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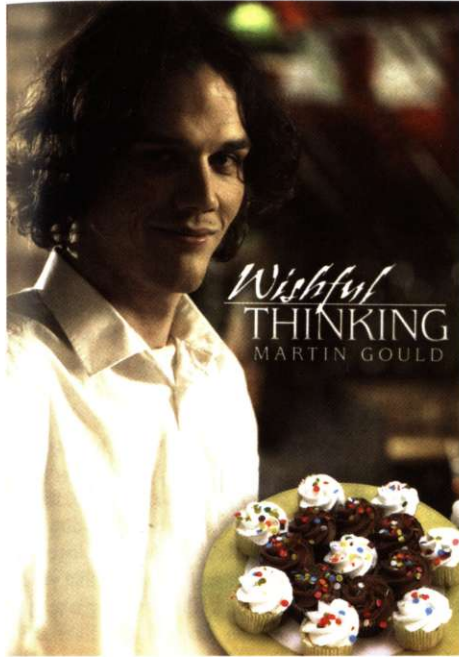




The Raven

385 West Bridge Street
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theravenresort.com

Book Report: *Wishful Thinking*



Review

Martin Gould has created a fun and fantastical play world for his alter-ego Elliott Simon. Filled with colorful characters and face paced prose and topping out at 191 pages, *Wishful Thinking* is a quick read. On occasion, Elliott finds himself in hair-brained situations worthy of Lucy Ricardo. Climb on and suspend your disbelief. Work stress, body image, relationship issues, insecurity and singing along with your favorite divas at the age of 10 are things most gay men will find it easy to relate to. 3 1/2 stars

A few minutes with Martin

Questions by: **Stephen Libby**

1. Do people mistake you for Elliott and vice versa? Has anyone ever seen you in the same room at the same time?

All of my Christmas cards I have received this season have been addressed to Elliott Simon c/o Martin Gould.....so much for trying to hide behind a literary alter ego. Truthfully, about 1/4 of my book is based on fact, 1/4 inspired by something that happened and then augmented and the remaining 1/2 pure fiction. My sister in law thought WISHFUL THINKING was all purely autobiographical and called me after she read it saying "What an exciting life you have led!" If only most of it actually happened!

2. Share the juiciest tidbit you can from the Hollywood Reporter days.

I had the thrill to meet two of my favorite actresses during my tenure at THE HR. Once I was invited to watch a taping of Ann-Margret performing a tv special with The Rockettes at Radio City Music Hall. A mutual friend introduced me to Ann-Margret in her dressing room. She was amazingly warm and friendly and we had a great chat. I remember she was worried about her appearance in the upcoming film "MAGIC" since she wore very little make up in the film. A couple of hours later, after taping, she returned to her dressing room and when she saw me yelled out: "Hi ya, Martin!" I was in heaven! Another fun meeting was chatting with Elizabeth Taylor at the Tony Awards nominations party at Sardis when she was up for an award for "The Little Foxes." While Ms. Taylor was talking with someone on her right, a colleague of mine on her left took Ms. Taylor's hand and showed me the huge diamond she was wearing on her finger. While we oohed and ahhed over the ring, Ms. Taylor was completely oblivious to what we were doing and just kept smiling at us while she chatted away.

"So much for trying to hide behind a literary alter ego."

3. Easton, PA., Nantucket, MA. Discuss.

I spend 3/4 of the year in The Lehigh Valley and 1/4 of the year on Nantucket. I was raised in Boston and have very strong New England roots. Plus I really thrive on being near the ocean. Nantucket fulfills both of these needs and I feel like I am back home when I am there. But I love living in The Lehigh Valley as well.

4. Favorite actors you have worked with, on and off Broadway?

By far, Debby Boone is my all time favorite actress/singer that I have had the privilege to work with. She has gotten a bad rap as being a "goody two shoes" kind of gal. She is really lots of fun and very silly. We laughed incessantly together (and still do). Plus she is a fine stage actress, a marvelous singer and a consummate professional (Clive Barnes of the New York Post called her "An American Julie Andrews." When we hang out together, I love hearing her stories of growing up in insular world Hollywood as the daughter of Pat Boone and all the celebrities she has known.

5. What are some ideas for the follow up to *Wishful Thinking*?

I am hoping to sell WISHFUL THINKING for a screen or tv adaptation. In addition, I have started a new novel set in the Lehigh Valley.



Author Martin Gould

Martin Gould was Broadway's youngest theatre critic when he was East Coast Editor for THE HOLLYWOOD REPORTER. Later he produced stage productions both on and off Broadway and performed in his one-man cabaret shows. Now heading his own public relations firm, Gould lives in Easton, PA and Nantucket, MA. *Wishful Thinking* is his debut novel.

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Skid Marks

by Andy Cook

Living in an area where we have four distinct seasons, you get used to driving in inclement weather. Some people, however, still fly along as though their cars will react like it is summertime. In reality, your car handles significantly worse as the weather worsens. Braking distances increase dramatically, wet roads can become icy in an instant, and snow can cover up slick road surfaces as the temperature drops and snow, sleet and hail begin. Just as you swap out your Prada loafers for some practical LLBean boots, you need to do a few things to prepare yourself and your car for the cold of winter.

Road conditions are at their worst just as bad weather begins. This is because the road surface is warm from cars running on them, but the air drops below freezing allowing the snow and rain to create a slick surface. Just try some emergency braking (in an empty parking lot, please!) and see how your car reacts.

Here are some quick tips to help you and your car through the winter months.

1. You can't change the laws of physics

All-wheel drive, 4-wheel drive, ABS (anti-lock braking systems), and traction control give a false sense of security. Bad weather means one thing: slow down! If it's icy out, instead of stopping you will just slide until something stops you (and let's hope it's not another car or a guardrail). Also, leave plenty of room between you and the car ahead. Stopping distances are significantly greater when there is snow or slush on the roads.

2. Be prepared

It's smart to have some emergency equipment in your car like a snow shovel, a blanket, de-icer, washer fluid and a scraper. One item most people have nowadays is a cell phone. Make sure it is charged, or have a car adapter so you can plug it into your lighter. If you are driving a long distance, periodically check in to let people at your destination know how you are doing.

3. Get a new pair of shoes

No, not for you; for your car. Snow tires give you better traction than normal tires. Many cars these days have 'performance' tires. This means the tread is designed for handling, and these work best when the road surfaces are dry. If you have this type of tire on your car, you may want to consider investing in snow tires. In some climates, snow tires are used on all four wheels for optimal traction. Snow treads are specifically designed for winter driving.

4. See and Be Seen

One of the smartest things you can do when driving in bad weather is to make sure your windows are clean and all your lights work. Get a friend to help you check your headlights, marker lights, and brake lights. Have you checked your wiper blades and washer fluid tank? If your car has a tailgate or hatch, don't forget about the wiper back there, too. When you are getting gas and cleaning your windshield, make sure your headlights are clean too. Slush and snow can really cut down on your headlight output, affecting your visibility.

5. Take your time (or change your plans)

Although you don't want to be late for a date, if the roads are bad you really may need to consider your options. 'Staying in' and watching a DVD may be a smarter move than attempting to drive somewhere. If you must go out, give yourself plenty of time to arrive safely. Did you ever notice that when it snows, there are a lot of people on the roads who really have no place being there? We've all seen them, and hopefully are giving them plenty of room. Don't let someone else's bad driving result in you getting into an accident!

In closing, dear reader, there's no reason you can't enjoy this time of year. Just remember that driving in winter requires some planning and forethought! Safe driving, everyone!

F.O.R.D.

Fix Our Reputation, Darling by S. Daniel Ackerman

Today, I would like to offer Ford Motor Company my congratulations and gratitude. Lately, we hear a lot about values in the news, and Ford just made a decision that clearly illustrates its values as a corporation. Let me explain:

Ford has apparently been subject to a boycott. In May, the American Family Association (based, quite naturally, in the thriving metropolis of Tupelo, Mississippi) called for a boycott on Ford's vehicles because the company was too "gay-friendly." The AFA owns more than 200 radio stations and claims more than 3 million supporters, so this announcement of a boycott was no trivial matter.

If you happen to be a small-minded bigot, the AFA's position is understandable. Ford has a history of being sympathetic on gay issues. A formal employee resource group known as Ford GLOBE (Gay, Lesbian, Or Bisexual Employees) has been in place with a board of directors since 1995. Sexual orientation has been a protected category from workplace discrimination at Ford since 1998, and since 1994 at Ford's locations in Britain. Besides producing "friendly" magnets and key chains, Ford has been sponsoring gay events for years, including providing a rainbow-painted Ka for the Christopher Street Day Parade in Cologne, Germany.

GLOBE seems particularly proud of a rather curious footnote to the Ford-sponsored London Mardis Gras of 2000, when Ford built a ramp and flung participants down in a giant inflatable beach ball. It was truly a watershed moment, fulfilling the much-anticipated prophecy that when the seventh queer has been cast down, then domestic partner benefits would be extended to gay and lesbian Ford employees. Ok, maybe it wasn't prophecy, but Ford did implement same-sex benefits in that year.

Ford Motor Company is more than just the Ford brand. They own eight marques, including Volvo, Land Rover, Jaguar, and Aston Martin. These four are called their "Premier Automotive Group," and appeal to a different demographic than your typical Ford customer. In 2001, Volvo made history by becoming the very first automobile brand to develop an ad campaign specifically targeting gays. Ford later expanded these ads to include their Land Rover and Jaguar. It seems as if that was the point when the AFA decided that they had had enough.

You have to marvel at a thought process so deranged that the idea of ads in gay-targeted publications seems like adequate grounds to call for a boycott. Sponsoring gay pride events, that's ok. Health care benefits for gay domestic partners, that's ok, too. Selling Volvos to gays, no problem. Everyone knows southern Christians don't drive Volvos. Wait, if they have queer ads for trucks like Range Rovers, they might have queer ads for regular Fords, too. Uh oh. I drive a Ford Ranger! Does that make me seem gay? PANIC!

And thus, a bouncing baby boycott was born in May of 2005.

It is difficult to determine how of an impact the AFA's boycott had on Ford's sales, but the Premier group posted a \$108 million dollar loss in the third quarter of 2005. Ford met with the AFA and asked them to end the boycott. The AFA halted it, and shortly thereafter Ford announced that it was cutting the ads for Jaguar and Land Rover in gay publications, but denied allegations that they were bowing to pressure from the AFA, which quickly claimed that they ended the boycott because Ford was "addressing their concerns." Rather, Ford said "during these budget-tightening times, our brands must make tough choices where to advertise and how to spend limited sponsorship dollars," and that they would continue to advertise Volvo and sponsor gay events.

Gay rights groups such as GLAAD and the Human Rights Campaign, who gave Ford a perfect score on their corporate equality index in both 2004 and 2005, were outraged. A number of representatives from these and other groups met with Ford, and two days later, Ford had this to say in a letter to gay activist groups:

"Jaguar and Land Rover made a business decision about their media plans... However, it is clear that there is a misperception about our intent. As a result, we have decided to run corporate ads in these targeted publications that will include not only Jaguar/Land Rover but all eight of Ford's vehicle brands."

Take that, American Family Association!

I applaud Ford for this brave decision. They have well and truly taken a stand against the anti-gay forces and, considering that Henry Ford was sympathetic to the Nazis, are illustrating just how far they as a company, and we as a society, have progressed. From a business standpoint, this decision may hurt them if the AFA decides to reinstate its boycott. As a group, gays and lesbians should consider Ford a little more charitably than perhaps we have in the past. So tell me, have you driven a Ford lately? Well, no, neither have I. But I am dreaming of an Aston Martin.

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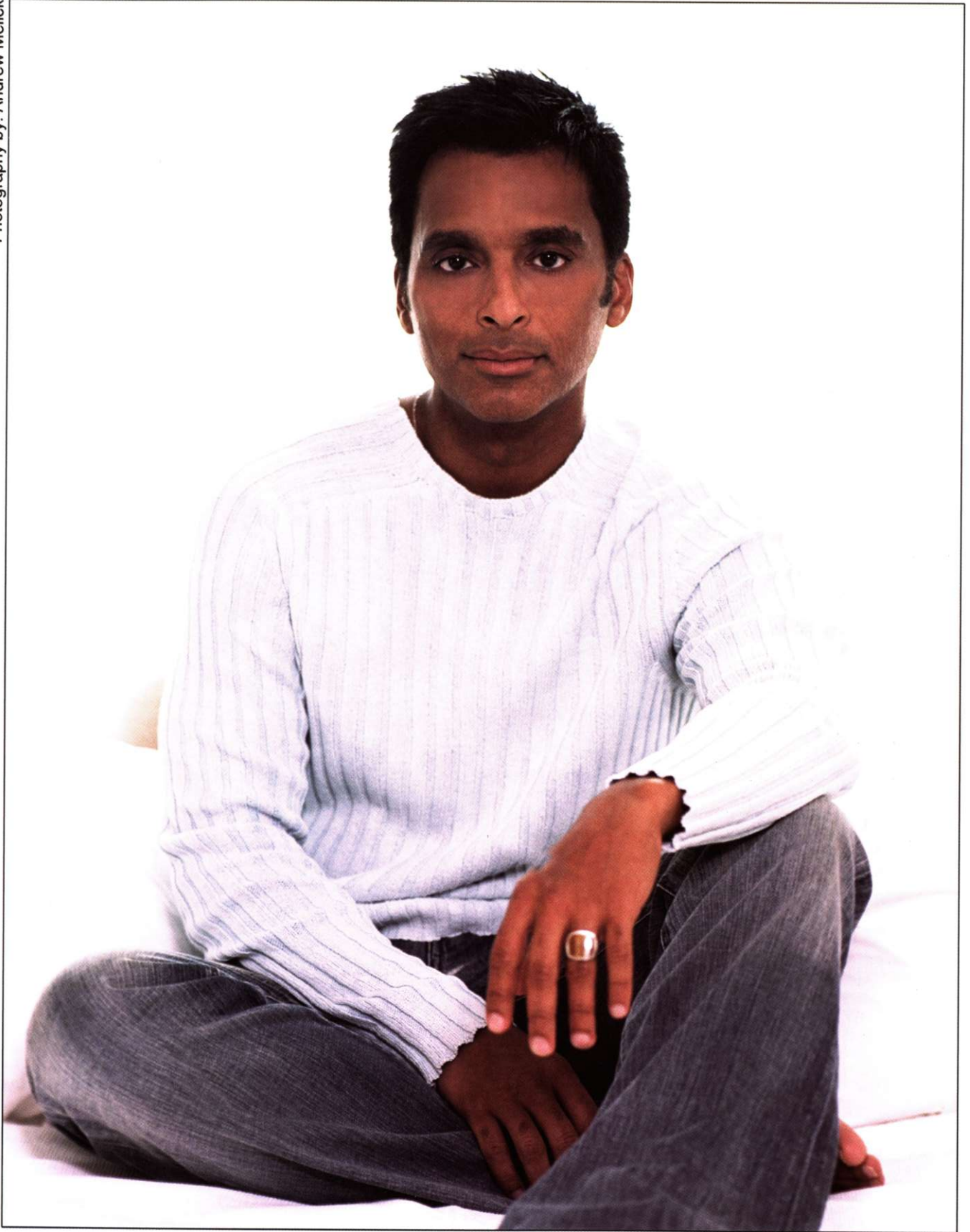
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Interview by **Mina Ivanova**

Jon Secada's new album, *Same Dream*, is an honest reflection of everything he is, personally and professionally. The two-time Grammy winning artist talks to *Gaydar Magazine* about the "hunger" for songwriting that drives his career, the ability to fuse innovation and tradition in his music, and the importance of the Spanish adaptation of his CD, which is the first of a multi album deal with Florida based Big3 Entertainment. He also shares his passion for the theatre and the key to balancing work and family.

I've been listening to *Same Dream* over and over again in the past few weeks, but the first thing that struck me was how positive it is.

Thank you. All these songs come from a very real place for me and that's what I intended. I write them with the guys that I work with all the time. We talk about our lives, secrets, confessions ... And we're hoping [the songs] remain very real, still in the pop sense, because this is a pop record, but very honest, very sincere.

What are your expectations about this album and its Spanish version, which comes out next March?

I am kind of doing what I've always done. I was raised bilingually and I have always recorded all my music bilingual. I am used to just being out there promoting it in both languages. I'll be doing the same with this record and making sure that my fans of both languages know exactly what is going on.

In what language do you write your lyrics?

Initially is English, although I grew up in Miami, which of course is such a strong Latin community.

The Spanish versions are very close in meaning to the originals. Do you translate them?

I try to adapt them as best as I can. That's what they are – adaptations. I want to make sure that when I sing them in a different language they still have strong meaning. They are not direct translations, because sometimes that does not work.

You've said this album is a link between your past work and the new sound you've created; a connection between your musical influences and the new team you work with. Can you elaborate more on the concept behind the album?

This album carries all of my influences. I've always liked fusion, experimenting with different types of music: popular, rock, R&B. But my main thing is to come up with the best songs I can. I grew up listening to singers-songwriters and to music that lasts. I grew up listening to the radio and a lot of music that stays on the radio for a long time: the music of Steve Wonder, Billy Joel, Elton John, Earth Wind and Fire. So my main thing has always been to write that type of music. From that standpoint I create the fusion with the guys I work with, adding some colors and flavors in the productions.

Your record represents both innovation and continuity. Many pop artists almost compulsively "reinvent" themselves to preserve their edge, but you seem to remain true to your style even when you add new elements to your music.

Absolutely right.

In a video commentary from your promo CD you say professionally you still have the same type of hunger and aspirations. What is your hunger?

Well, I love what I do. I love writing songs. I still have the same ambition to keep writing, producing, and performing like I've done in the past 12-13 years. And I still have a lot to offer. I think this is important, especially looking at the career I want to have. Without that burning desire to keep doing it, to keep experimenting, to keep trying new things, working on new songs and being excited about stuff, at the end of the day [my music] won't translate into the energy that people want to see. If you want them to keep seeing it, you have to always challenge yourself.

What emotions do you want your listeners to feel?

Just love, you know. All these songs are about love. Different types of love – the good, the bad, the confusing, the reflective... A little bit of everything. But they are also inspirational and make you feel good about yourself. All my songs have a love theme, but seen from different angles

In the title song, *Same Dream*, you sing "I'm a different man, same dream..." But doesn't the dream become greater with every accomplishment?

It evolves. It develops. And then your own experience has to kick in and you have to figure out who you are as a human being and what you want to do. That's what the CD means. That's why it has that name. It has to deal with who I am right now as a person and as an artist, and with the fact that deep down in my heart I'm still looking for something more to offer.

And I want to keep doing it. I don't want to stop. I like the fact that I still have that desire, that fire I had when I started in this business. It is like your own personal growth. You have to keep it going, keep challenging yourself, be honest with yourself, and, hopefully, be appreciated.

Are any of your new songs autobiographic?

Not necessarily so, but they are definitely very reflective... This CD has a lot of reflection and a lot of honesty, stuff from conversations with my co-writers. It is all about being the person that I am, about my feelings and my thoughts. They are all part of the music.

How does inspiration work for you? Do songs start with a melody, a word, or a mental image?

It depends. Sometimes they start with an idea for a lyric, sometimes with a melody I have recorded. But I definitely work them. They come together when I sit with my guys and work on them – playing the recording, hearing it back and making sure everything fits right.

So you're open to suggestions?

I am very, very objective. Especially in the songwriting process.

You've performed with various artists. Which is your favorite duet?

Oh boy! The one that comes to mind is the duet with Frank Sinatra ("The Best Is Yet To Come"). I was very flattered to be asked to be a part of that CD (Frank Sinatra Duets II).

Gloria and Emilio Estefan have played an important role in your career. Your first solo performance was in 1991 during Gloria's "Into the Light" tour. Do you consider that a breakthrough moment?

Absolutely. My whole career with Gloria was amazing. Writing that song [Coming Out of the Dark], being part of the CD, and touring with her launched what became my solo career... Coming out of the dark" was my first #1 song as a song writer.

What was it like the first time you sang solo at a Gloria Estefan concert? What were you thinking?

Well, first of all, I was so thankful to Gloria for giving me the opportunity. I was so excited People knew me as a song writer but did not know me as a singer. And of course performing in front of thousands of people provided a showcase for my career, because that's when the record companies found out that I was a singer as well. But, like anything else, it was a process that took 4-5 years. Once I was there I was all very comfortable and very thankful for the opportunity.

Is that when you knew you want to pursue a solo career?

That was always the idea from the beginning, but definitely that particular moment was right.

Your first self-titled album was a huge success. How did that change your life?

I would say that I was very lucky my 1st CD was successful from the get go. I was prepared for what was to come from working with Gloria. Everything that followed was wonderful. It was a blessing. That kind of success in both languages – I could not believe it! We spent a lot of time thinking about what on the 1st CD... to sell? And it worked.

How hard was it for you as a Latin American artist to make it in this country?

Luckily other people had done it before me: Gloria, Julio Iglesias, and others. There was a little bit of crossover tradition of Latin American artists on the American market. I am still very proud that in the early 90s I was also one of the artists who created a new wave of artists like Shakira and Ricky Martin, Enrique Iglesias, and Marc Anthony. Now we are definitely enjoying the best times of being a Latin artist in the US. And, of course, it is a lot easier than before.

With everything you have going on how do you manage to balance family and work?


It's tough. Communication is number one. And that means making sure I know everything and talking to my family. Everything else is more difficult without communication. I always need to know what's going on, regardless of what album I'm recording or in what city I'm in.

What do you want your children to learn from you?

The meaning of hard work and being proud of where they come from, being proud of their tradition. And to understand what that means to me. Also, the love of family and god. After that it is all a matter of making sure we are the best family that we can be.

What is your New Year's resolution?

Just see the kids growing up with a lot of health and a lot of love.



Alanis Morissette

in concert

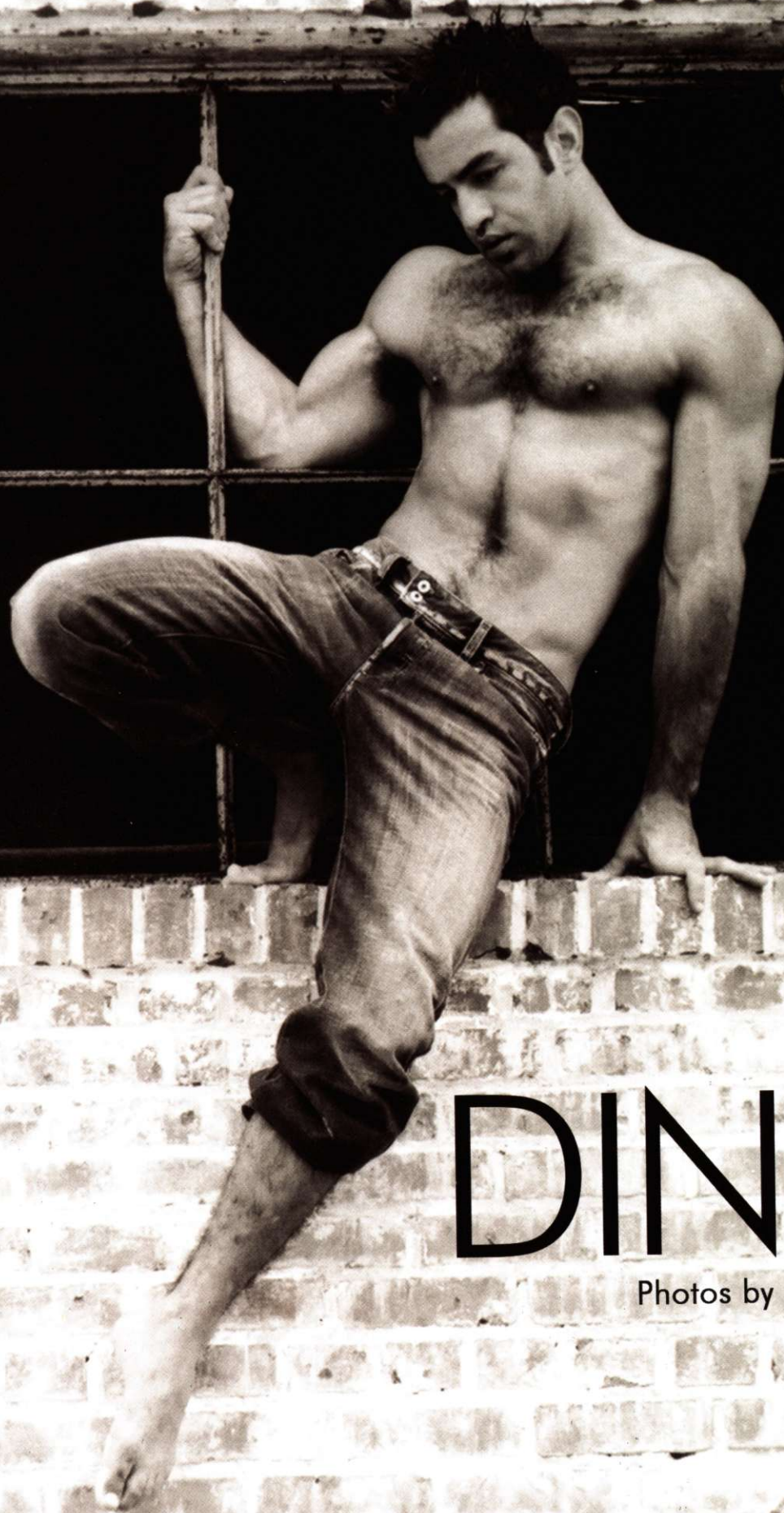
Review by **Mina Ivanova**

Photos by **Daniel Mare**

The Roseland Ballroom at 239 West 52nd Street in New York City is seething with approximately 3,000 excited and antsy Alanis Morissette fans. They are here for her November 18th concert promoting her record, *The Collection*, which is just that – a 17 track collection of her best praised work since her 1995 debut album *Jagged Little Pill*. For the seven-time Grammy winner singer-songwriter this record recaps a significant chapter of her career and marks the beginning of a new stage in her work.

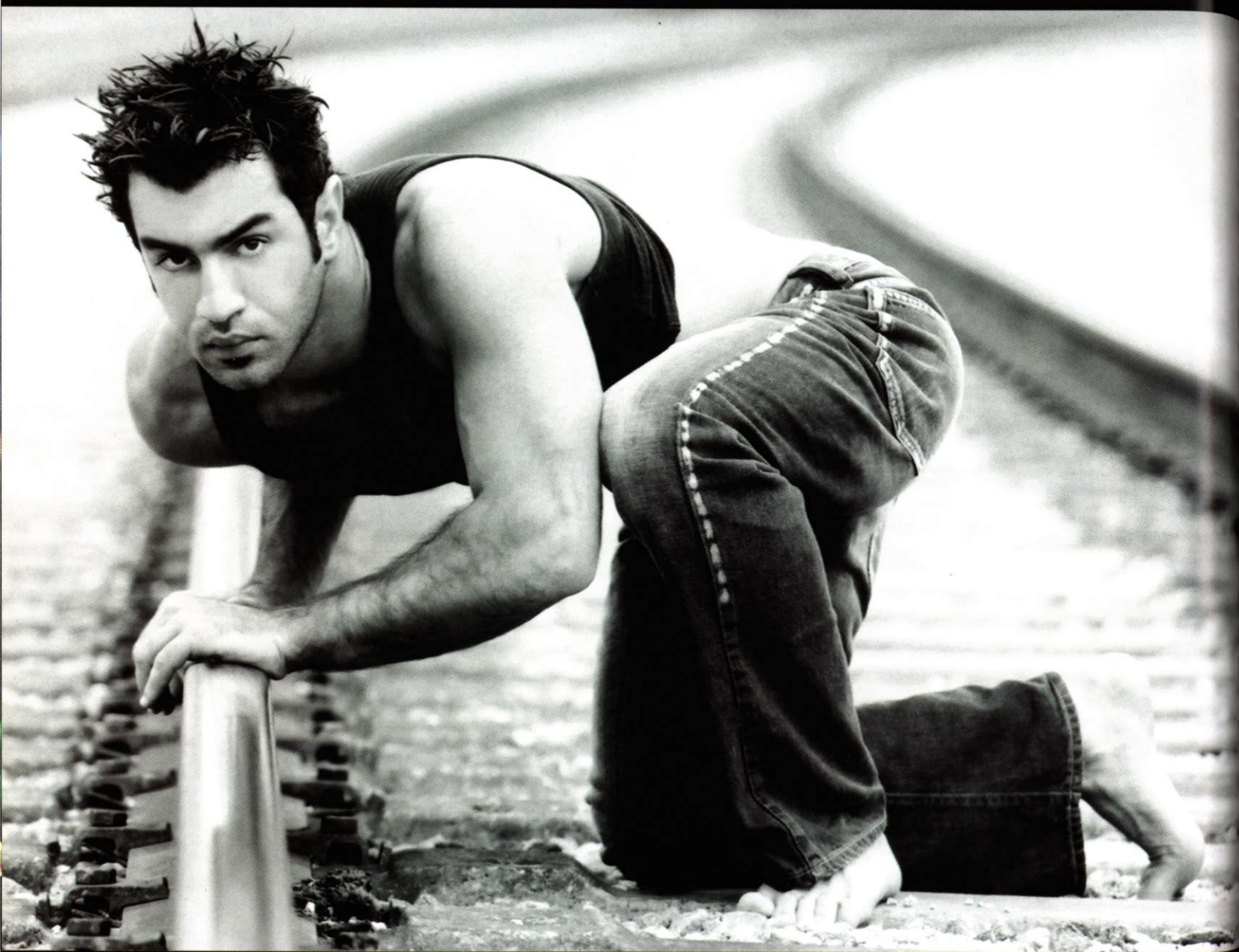
The lighting tech carefully adjusts the limelight and aiming its bright white beam at the spot from where Alanis will walk out on stage. Gusts of impatient sporadic applause overpower the relentless background music. Finally Alanis appears and like a powerful wave her voice spills inside the brick-walled Roseland Ballroom. “So forgive me love...,” she sings a cappella a line from *Your House* as the welcoming ovation of the audience subsides. The crowd begins to sway and sing with her underneath a constellation of electric blue cell phone screens held above the head to capture the magic on stage with their miniature cameras.

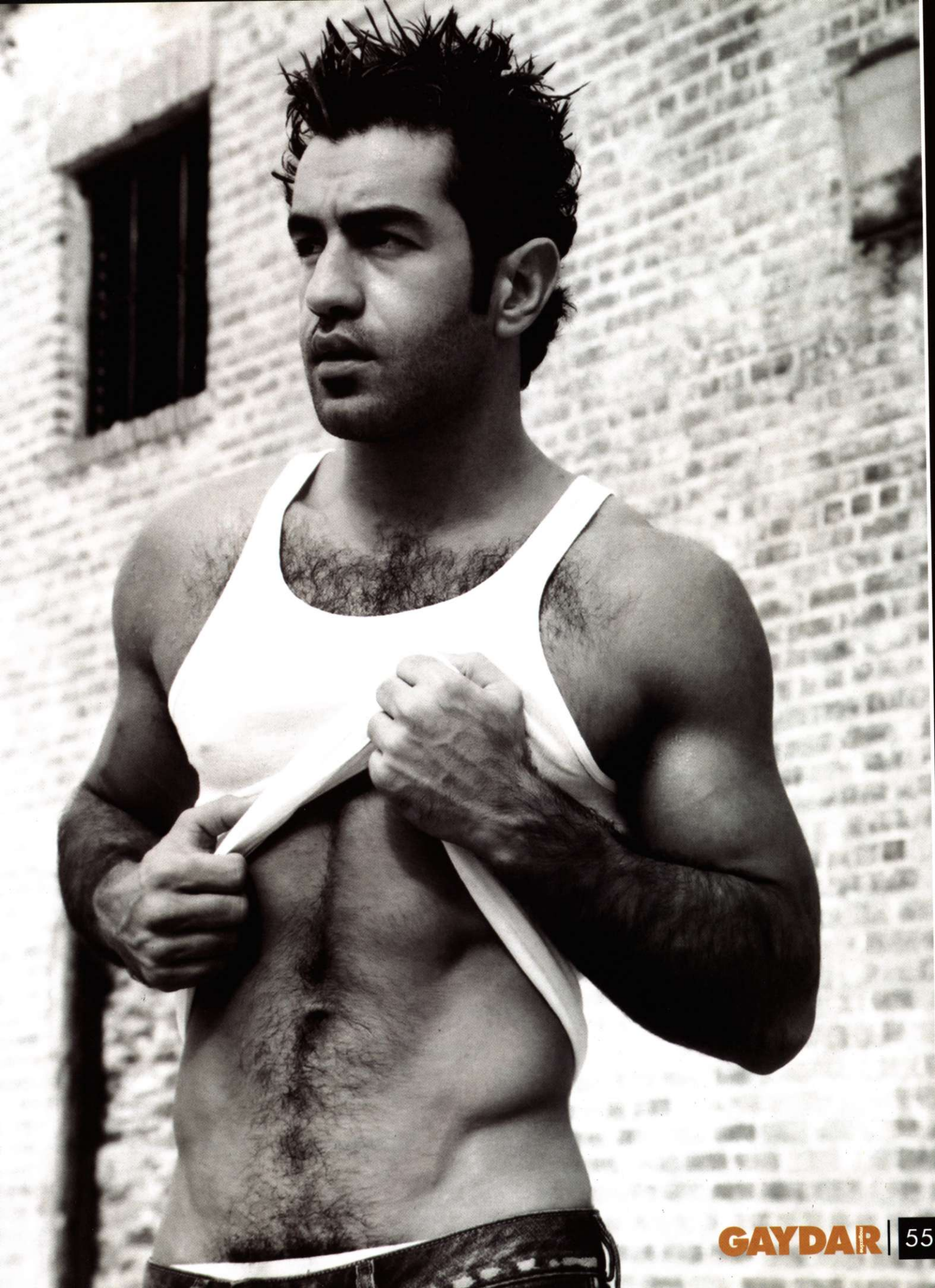
The show continues with passionate and energetic performances of Alanis’s signature songs like *You Learn*, *Hand in My Pocket*, and *You Oughta Know*. These songs evoke memories for everyone who has ever heard the unmistakable voice of Alanis Morissette. No one suffers or celebrates with the vocal bravado of Ms Morissette. Is it wonder she is a favorite of the GLBT community? Not to us. We await the next collection.

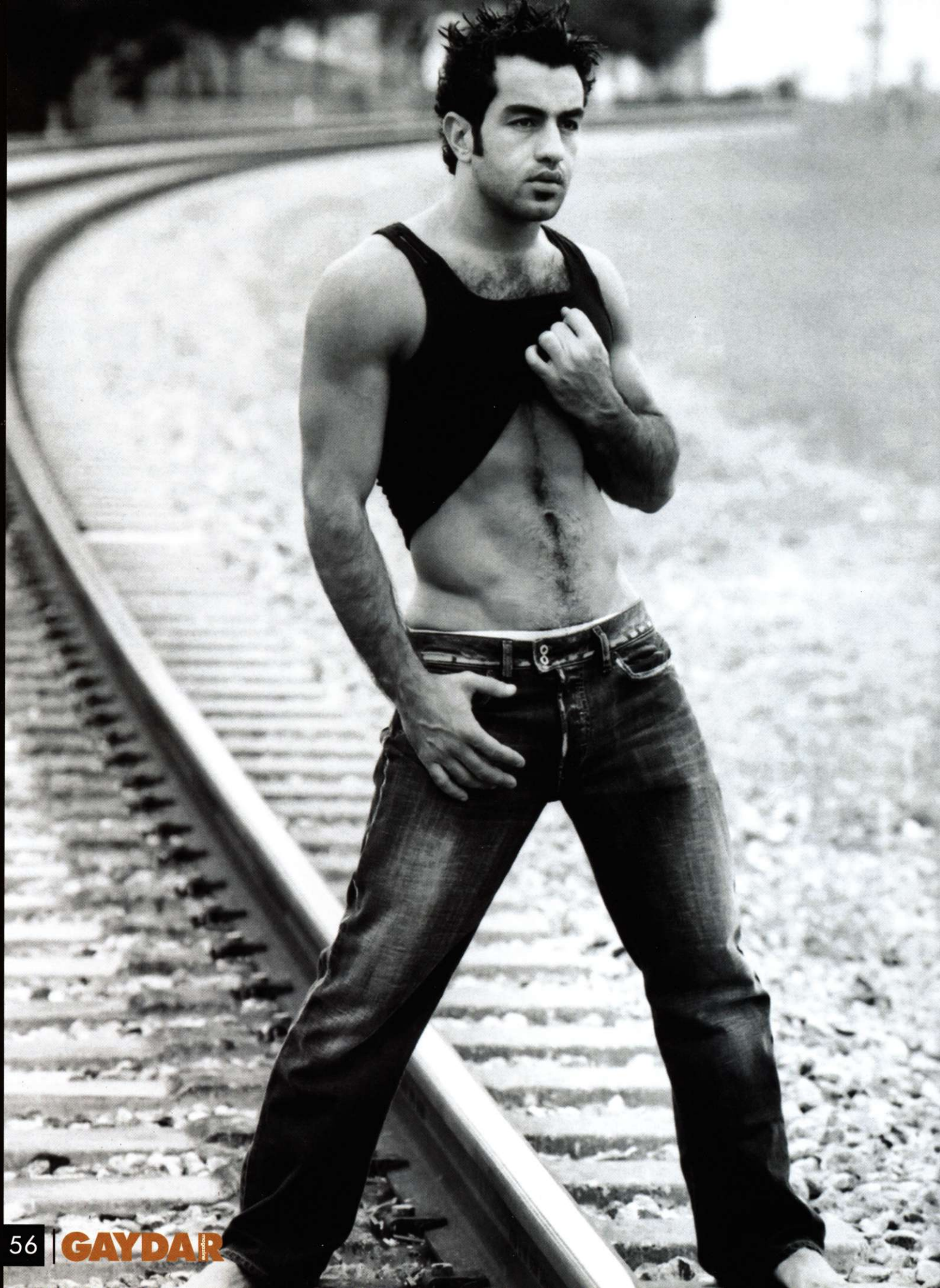


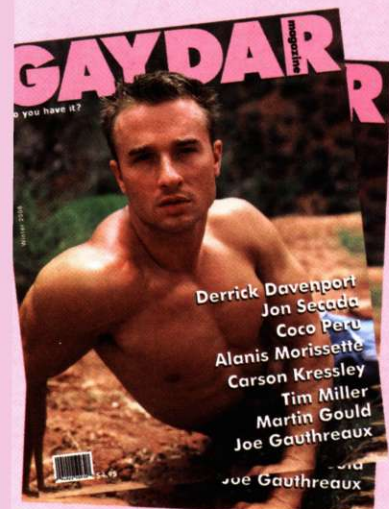
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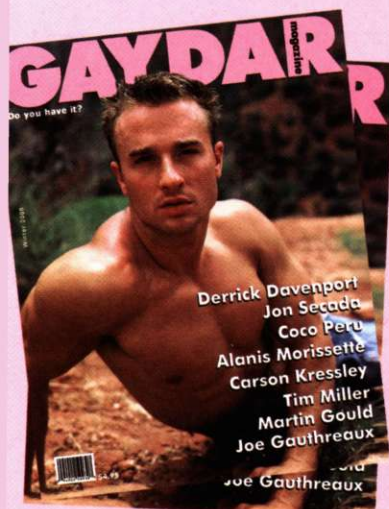
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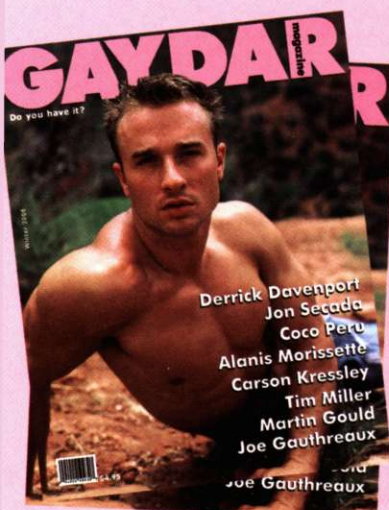
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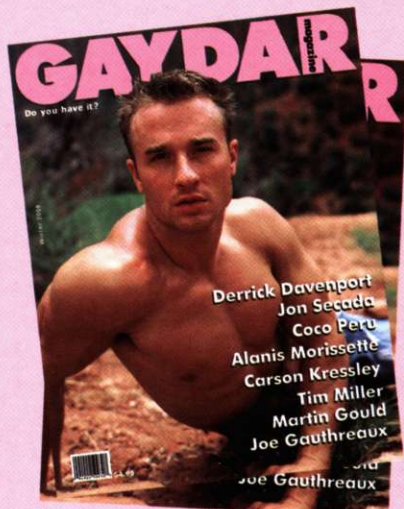
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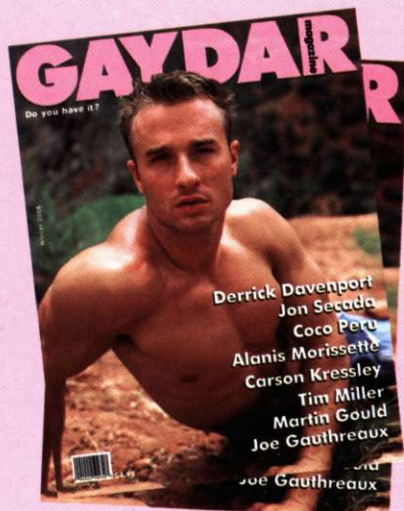
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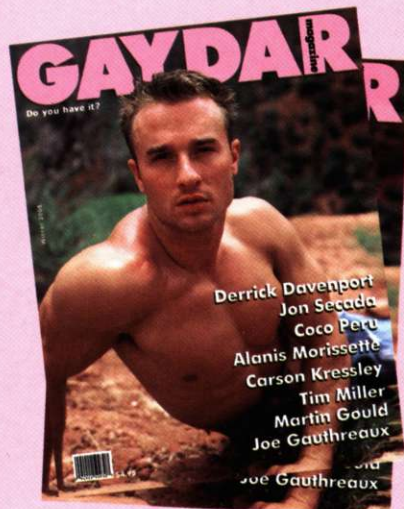
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Straight Eye On The Queer Guy

by Christopher J. Scott

I don't believe I can actually pinpoint the exact time the realization came to me. Maybe it had been in the back of my head for some time; like when your alarm is buzzing for ten minutes straight early in the morning. Maybe I'd figured it out a while back, but had subconsciously been rejecting the idea. Then again, maybe I had accepted the idea, but had just put it on a shelf in my brain, knowing it was a no-win, all around bad drama waiting to happen.

Regardless of how, one day I just turned around and thought, "Man, my best friend is so gay." Now, don't get me wrong. I am in no way homophobic, or at all judgmental of a person's private habits; I mean, unless it has to do with kiddy porn or dismembering live animals in your basement. I like to draw the line somewhere around that point. Anyway, my friend was full blown gay, and not only was he not coming out of the closet, he had no idea he was even in a closet.

For privacy's sake, let's call my buddy "Luke Smith". Now Luke was not your average gay stereotype. He was a gym rat, a dedicated lifter, and he was a big dude. For about a year I worked out with him in his basement, five, sometimes six days a week, and it was hardcore. Old-school Metallica blasted from the speakers, sweat hit the concrete floor, and protein was ingested. He was big. I, on the other hand, was not. Luke would lift, then we would peel off about seventy pounds of weights for my turn. Man, that used to make me feel so proud.

Luke was an athlete also. He was pretty wicked at soccer, as well as track; I believe the 400 meters. He had long blond hair, past shoulder length, and piercing blue eyes. And no, the ladies didn't ignore him. He always had on the tight t-shirts and boots, and he just smacked of manliness. We used to love going out with him. Even though I was the fighter of the group, we never had much trouble when our big jacked buddy was along for the ride.

All in all, Luke had all the makings of being more of a man than most of us. Ladies drooled, men took a step back, and Mr. Smith, meanwhile, remained quiet, guarded, and aloof. He enjoyed the fear and attention that came his way, and never opened up much in public, so as not to spoil the image. However, I hung out with the guy six days a week; I shared meals with him, sweated with him, went out with him, even slept in the same bed as him (more on that later). If one person couldn't be fooled, it was me.

The first little bell in my head went off when I first got to scope out his room. Most guys at the border of high school and college have lots of naked chicks staring back at them from their walls. Maybe some porn hidden in a certain drawer, or at the very least a Victoria's Secret catalog or two. Not Luke; his walls were covered with guys. There were band posters, especially Metallica, but this was taken in stride since those guys rocked. But, more numerous than male bands, were posters and pictures of jacked-up guys with no body hair and wearing tiny speedos. We used to joke about it sometimes. At first it was funny, then later the lack of anything remotely feminine started to get a little weird.

Luke also loved to shop: for clothes. Now, dudes like to shop, sometimes; but we aren't out scouring sales and buying five-hundred threadcount sheets. We're at the t-shirt store, buying shit that turns chicks off, and wearing the same faded jeans we had for the past four years. Yeah, the male models in magazines look all preppie and well groomed, but they're models; someone tells them what to wear. That is why guys have girlfriends; so we have someone to help us look good, and to teach us that actual bed-head is shitty, not super cool.

Now, shopping and looking sweet do not a gay man make, but keep reading and you'll see how it all starts to fit. One of the biggest signs that wacked me across the forehead was the whole same bed deal. Now look, this has absolutely nothing to do with gay people, but it is in the guy code that two dudes don't sleep in the same single bed. Why? Who knows? We don't have pillow fights in our tighty-whities either, just because we're dudes. So, one night I'm crashing at Luke's house, and he's like, "you can sleep in my bed. I'm going to finish this movie." Sweet. No couch tonight. I fell asleep warm and contented. I woke up crowded; and no, his hot sister wasn't the one next to me.

Now, nothing happened, except for me to be a bit surprised when I woke up. Right now, you are probably thinking that these things don't seem too out of the ordinary. Perhaps a bit odd, but that's all. I would agree with you. If, however, you knew Luke, especially extremely well like I did, then you would see what I had seen. Luke was a "tough guy". Weakness was mocked. Manliness ran to the extreme. If you had to make fun of weaker people, especially gay people, then so be it. I believe that was one of the biggest tip offs. Here was this manly guy, who just overtalked his attraction to women, while at the same time, he took every tiny opportunity to put down anything even remotely gay related.

I talk about women myself, as does any guy who is alive. However, Luke used to go so over the top with it, almost like he was trying to convince you that he really did like girls. Why did he have to convince anyone? He's a dude; most guys like girls. It's almost a given. Mixed with, and even more apparent, was his extreme case of homophobia. I never understood that. Why be afraid of how certain people are made? It seems so stupid to me. People don't choose a life as complicated as this; it is simply the cards they were dealt. When someone goes crazy over it, constantly, then maybe they are subconsciously fighting their own brain on the idea.

Most guys at the border of high school and college have lots of naked chicks staring back at them from their walls. Maybe some porn hidden in a certain drawer, or at the very least a Victoria's Secret catalog or two. Not Luke; his walls were covered with guys.

And there we have it. Luke was brought up in a strict Catholic household. His dad was a manly guy; he was big, built his own house, didn't take any crap from people, etc. Ever since he was old enough to hear, Luke had been told how evil being gay was, how it was ok to loathe those people, and feel sorry for them, as they lived tormented lives then dropped finally into hell. Hard core Catholics aren't wishy-washy on the subject; and that is what had been pumped into my friend's brain since he's been born. So, that created a problem a lot bigger than coming out of the closet. The problem of being forced by your own mind to remain locked in the closet; forever.

I think it's shitty how gay people are treated these days; even labeling them "gays" is insulting. They are just people, the same as everyone else. The choices they make in their own bedrooms shouldn't isolate them from the rest of the world. That is just ridiculous. Our messed up, intolerant society breeds people like my buddy Luke. A too manly, homophobic kid, who couldn't sustain a relationship with a girl, no matter how hard he tried. Why? Because he didn't like girls. At the same time, his conditioned brain would never let him even entertain the other possibility without feeling massive guilt and shame. So, because of circumstances beyond his control, his life will never be what it could have been, and his brain will always be in a constant state of fighting with itself. Can you think of anything more horrible to live with throughout your entire life?

So how do we help people locked in a struggle like this? First and foremost, we can all become more tolerant. What a bunch of bullshit it is that society can force someone to be tortured all their life for a choice that was never even theirs to make. It starts with us; you and me. Then we teach our friends tolerance; then our children, and lead by example so strangers can see it also. The change won't be immediate, but the ball will start rolling, and hopefully in time our society as a whole will benefit from a change that was started by individuals such as ourselves. Don't let people like Luke live a life of mental torment because of ignorance. Let's start a change, and keep it going all around us. If it takes hold, maybe things will progress to the point that anyone in America, the land of the "free", can actually get married and enjoy the same freedoms as any other human being.

Or, is that just crazy talk?

My Bloody Valentine

Working on "Ghostwatcher 2" was truly a unique experience. It was a lot of long nights, and since it was a horror movie a lot of it was done at night for effect. It was also very cold so when we did the outdoor scenes we had to carry around little heating packs. It was my first horror project, so it differed from other stuff that I've done. I had to work with corn syrup, dyed dish soap, and a lot of duct tape, lol. It wasn't just interacting with the other characters/actors that made a difference, it was more than that. I was learning a new genre of acting that will help me grow as an actress. I learned different screaming techniques, lurking around corners, and how to throw up blood without hurting myself, lol. That scene (the club scene) was awesome to do! I really enjoyed working with all the extras. It made it more fun, like a big party. We did the entire scene in four hours and poor Vince (Darius Blake) had to be in makeup for 3 hrs for a 3 second shot. That scene was shot the same day as the funeral home scene, so it was interesting to have to switch moods. I really liked working with new people. Everyone has a take on their character and it helps bring the story to life.

The director, David A. Cross was really helpful. He knew what he wanted and helped everyone bring it out, including acting it himself to show us exactly how it should be done.

To my fans in the gay and lesbian community- a heartfelt thanks for your continued support.

xo,

Seregon O'Dassey



Wearing Levi's

By Anthony Lucas

Curved up at the ends: A frown that shows even when there's a smile in place of red, pink, smooth skin.

Hot in the commercial sense.

You're melting, and he's talking, and the walls are closing in. Your jean, you can feel yourself getting hard. Everyone knows it. The Virgin Mary is bracing herself, and church bells are ringing.

Curves from his lips, to his neck, to his stomach, to the two well-exercised ass cheeks that you dream of. This white boy from a small town in Indiana makes small towns have big names. Hold it open with both of your hands and taste it after it's been touched.

Warm.

Warm.

Lips, lips, lips, that never end. Body to body, lips to lips..

Nothing but red sensations, nothing but goodnight lullabies. Smooth, so smooth. Rushing sensations that make your eyes close, and all they are, are lips, just lips, curved so perfectly, an all-American dream: two smooth curves that make up this too smooth boy seem like nothing but skin.

Look at the back of his neck, and follow your eyes to the back of his entrance, to the exit song of his good-night kiss.

No phone calls, no green grass.

No real dreams; just lust spelled all over this tan, warm, beautiful body, that makes you want more. Makes you want to run right into a wall. Everything is screaming. The walls are screaming, your skin is screaming, and your cigarette is still lit.

Touch me, damn it. Touch me.

Beat, beat, beating, he's still there. He hasn't moved. He says, "Hey Darlin'," and you say "What?" Spit on the side of your mouth. And it's drying up now.

Still smooth. Still warm.
Curves everywhere.
Curves that make your eyes do U-turns.

He's your new addiction,
and you're putting him
in your arm.

Tap, tap, tap,
the good vein.

Not
wearing
Levi's >>

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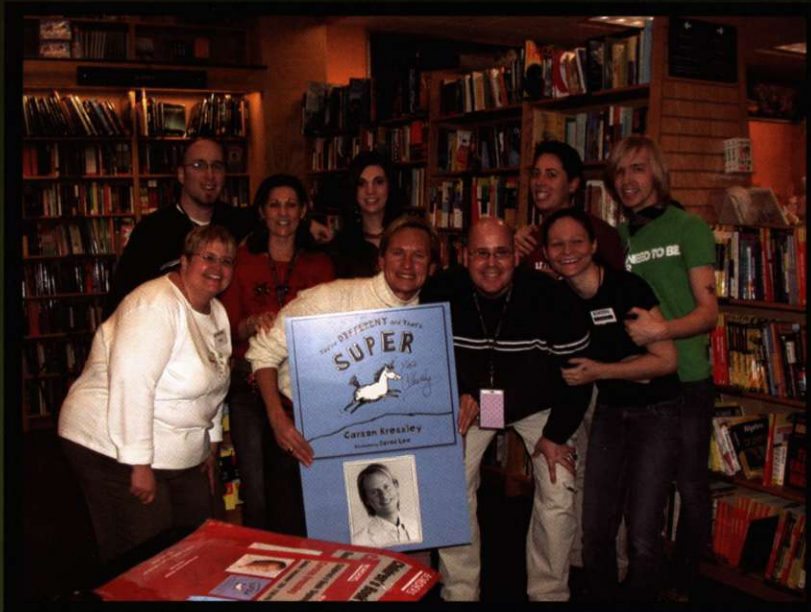
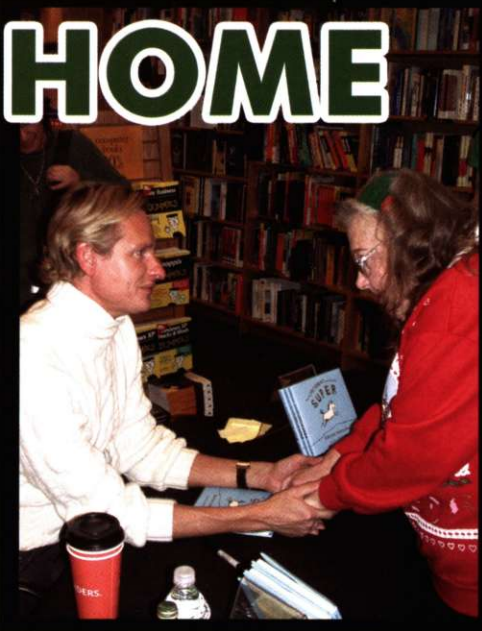
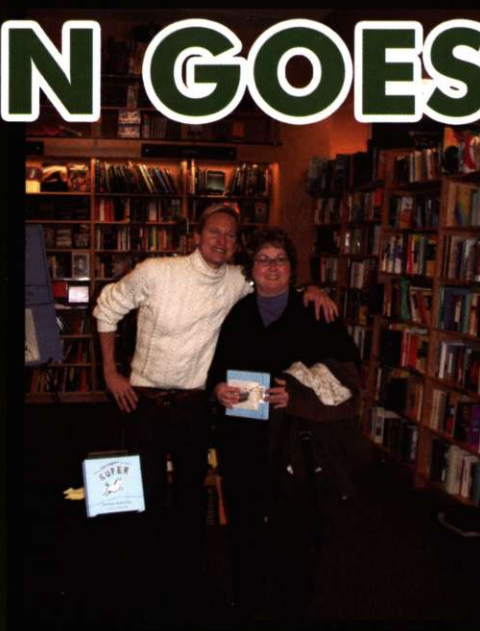
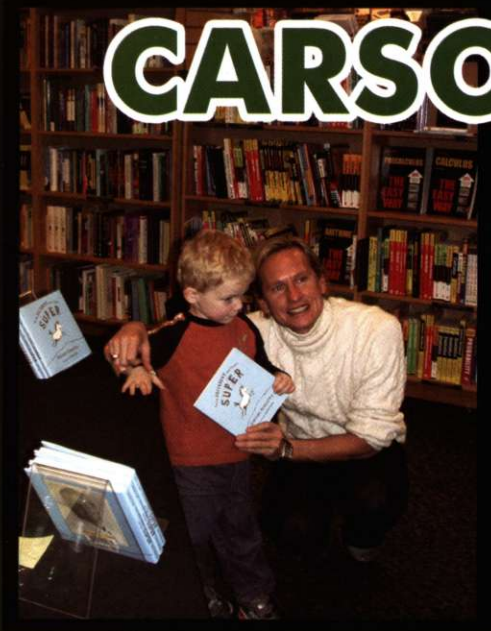
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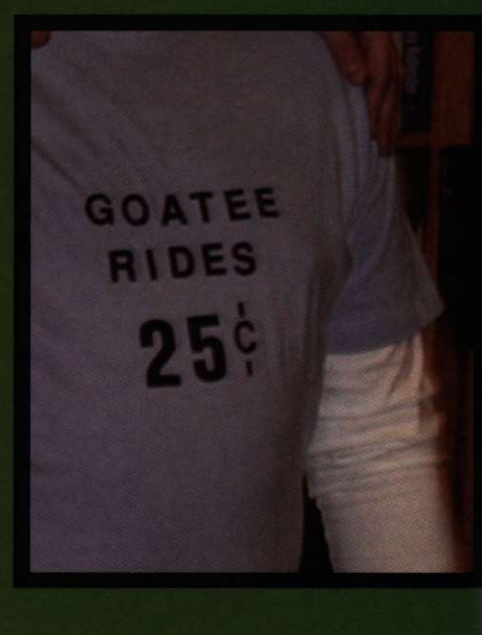
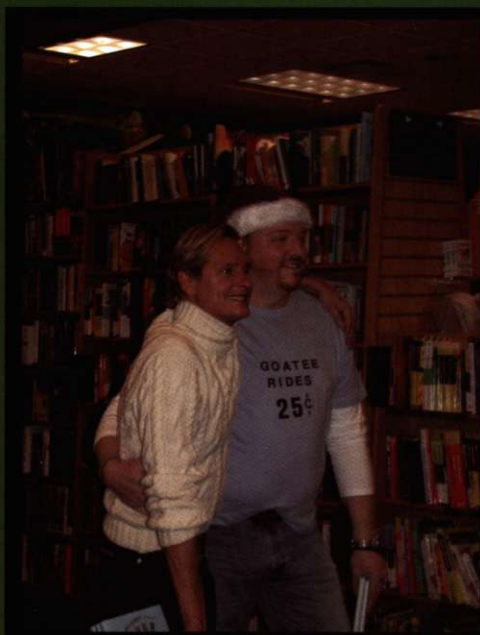
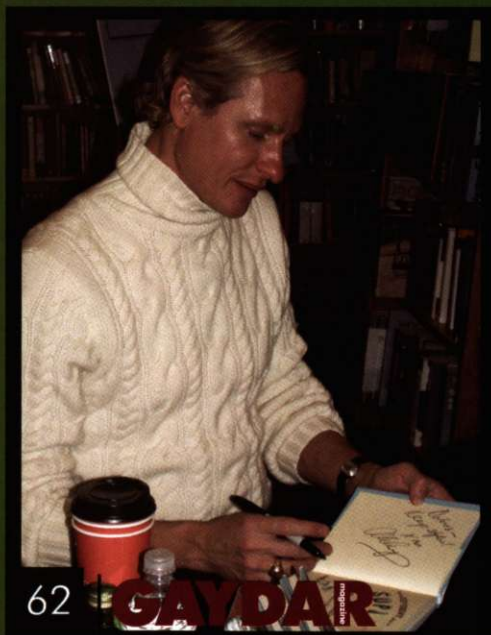
CARSON GOES HOME



Carson Kressley returned to his native Lehigh Valley to autograph copies of his new children's book, "You're Different, And That's Super", a story about a horse with horn issues. A few hundred people waited in line to get multiple copies signed for holiday gifts. Photos: 1, a very young Queer Eye fan; 2, Donna Crucianni; 3, a woman who requested to pray with CK (it was Sunday after all); 4, the staff of Border's in Whitehall, PA; 5, checks his spelling; and finally 6 & 7, Santa to which CK quipped "they're only 25 cents now?"

Carson Kressley is what every celebrity should be when at a signing; approachable, patient, accommodating and friendly.

Much luck with "Super", Carson!



OVERHEARD AT THE **SUPERHERO CONVENTION**

BATMAN: DOES THIS CAPE MATCH MY BOOTS?

SUPERMAN: NEVERMIND THAT. DO THESE BRIEFS
MAKE MY ASS LOOK BIG?

WOLVERINE: OH. I THINK I BROKE A CLAW
OPENING THAT YUENGLING.

WONDER WOMAN: HEY. MY BRACELETS ARE
MISSING. HAS ANYONE SEEN THE INVISIBLE GIRL?

AQUAMAN: HEY. BOTTOM!

ROBIN: I DON'T CARE WHAT BATMAN SAYS. I'M
A TOP. I SWEAR!

HULK: JUST BECAUSE YOU SIT ON IT DOESN'T
MAKE YOU A "TOP".

SPIDERMAN: THEY SAY IF YOU PLAY WITH IT TOO
MUCH YOU'LL GO BLIND.

DAREDEVIL: VERY FUNNY! I'M NOT THE ONE
WITH STICKY WHITE STUFF ON MY HANDS ALL THE
TIME.

CAPTAIN AMERICA: HOW MANY SUPERHEROES
DOES IT TAKE TO SCREW IN A LIGHTBULB?

SHAZAM: NONE. WE ALL HAVE ULTRA VIOLET
VISION.

SUPERCIRL: (ROLLING HER EYES) UGH! THAT
ONE NEVER GETS OLD!

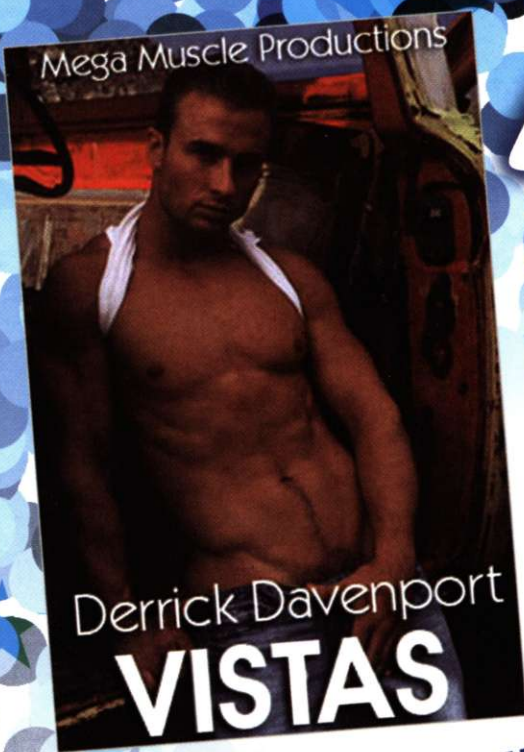
HUMAN TORCH: FLAME ON!

THE THING: FLAME OFF!

HUMAN TORCH: FLAME ON!

THE THING: FLAME OFF!

HUMAN TORCH: NOW CUT THAT OUT!



4 Autographed Derrick Davenport DVD's

**What month and year did
Derrick appear on the cover
of Playgirl?**

GIVEAWAYS

**Who is Melissa
Etheridge's
girlfriend?**



4 Autographed Melissa Etheridge Greatest Hits CD's

**Respond to gaydarmagazine.com. Winners will be selected by random drawing on
March 27, 2006. Good Luck!**



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